# スカル マン

SKULL MAN

「仮面ライダー」の原点がついに復活!!

石ノ森章太郎

9784063420029

1929979003050

雑誌 47630-02

ISBN4-06-342002-7

C9979 ¥305E (0)

定価320円 本体305円

講談社・コミックス

この名作が320円で!!

"Both with 'Skull Man' and with 'Kamen Rider', I tried to create a new kind of horror story, a scary work that you could still show to children. Although I thought, 'First off, I wanna scare 'em!' when I wrote it, so it's incredibly dark? (laughs)"
— From the Afterword

「スカルマン」にしても「仮面ライダー」にしても、新しいホラーものというか、子供に見せる恐怖ものを作りたいとは思ってた。"まず怖がらせよう"と思って作ったから非常に暗いんだけどね(笑)

——あとがきより

# THE SKULL MAN

by SHOTARO ISHINOMORI

「スカルマン」石ノ森章太郎 03

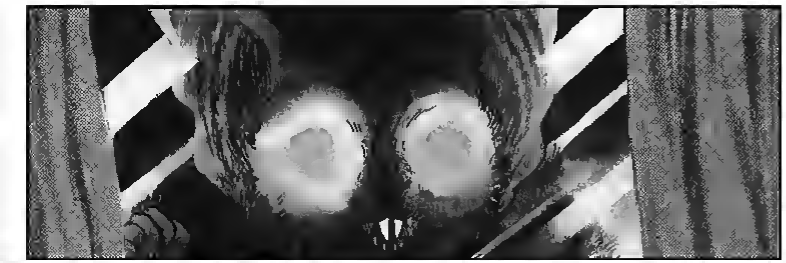
# SKULL MAN

ISHINOMORI SHOTARO

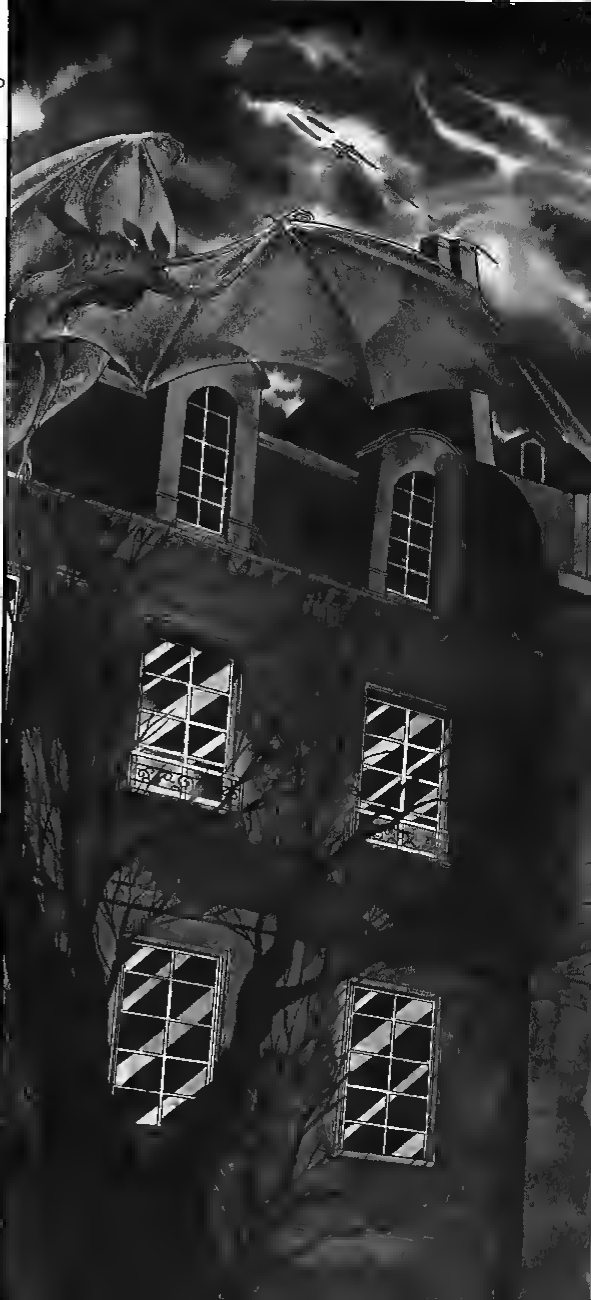
FIRST RUN IN ISSUE 3 OF WEEKLY SHONEN MAGAZINE, 1970

THE THIRD RELEASE IN THE NEW YEAR'S 100-PAGE SHORT STORY PLAN (THE FIRST AND SECOND STORIES WERE BY NAGAI GOU AND ASAOKA MITSUSHI). A WORK WHICH DEALT HEATEDLY WITH THE LABORS OF MAN, IN CONTINUATION OF LAST YEAR'S "GREAT SHORT STORY INVASION". THE ISSUE IN WHICH IT RAN HAD A PRINT RUN OF 1,502,000. THERE WERE NEWSPAPER FLYERS ADVERTISING IT, AND, FOR THE READERS AT THAT TIME, THE ISSUE WAS A HIGHLY ANTICIPATED ONE. "SKULL MAN" BECAME THE PREDECESSOR OF THE "KAMEN RIDER" CHARACTER (BOKURA MAGAZINE, '71).

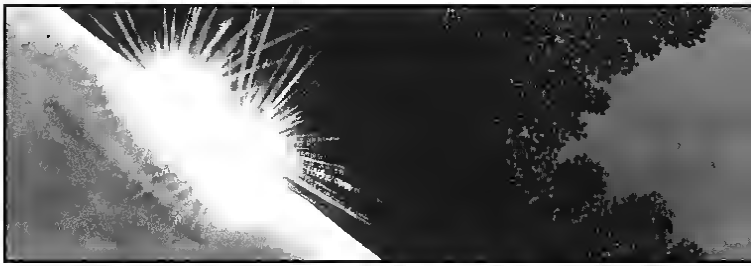
石ノ森章太郎
（いしのもりしょうたろう）



sfx(right): flap
sfx(below) rap rap

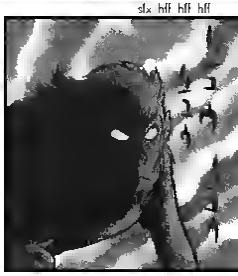


sfx: Screeeeeech



sfx c ackle c ack crack crack

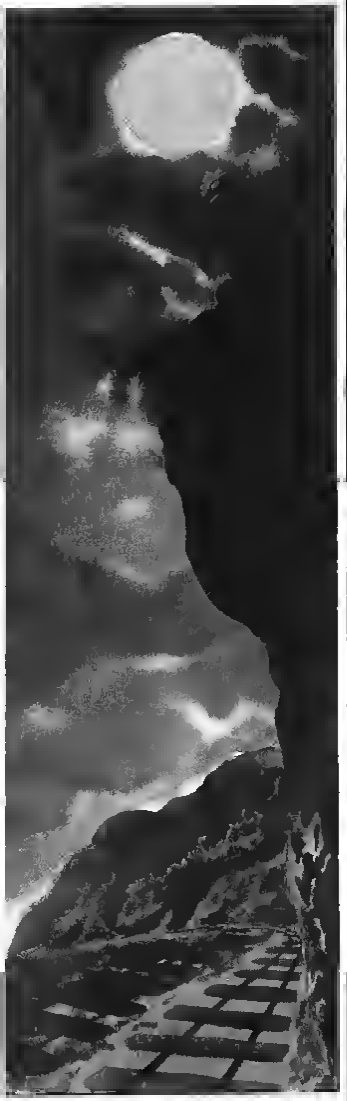
sfx hff hff hff



sfx Gr

sfx(left)- Snarrrrrl

THE SKULL MAN



sfx(top left) krm krm krm

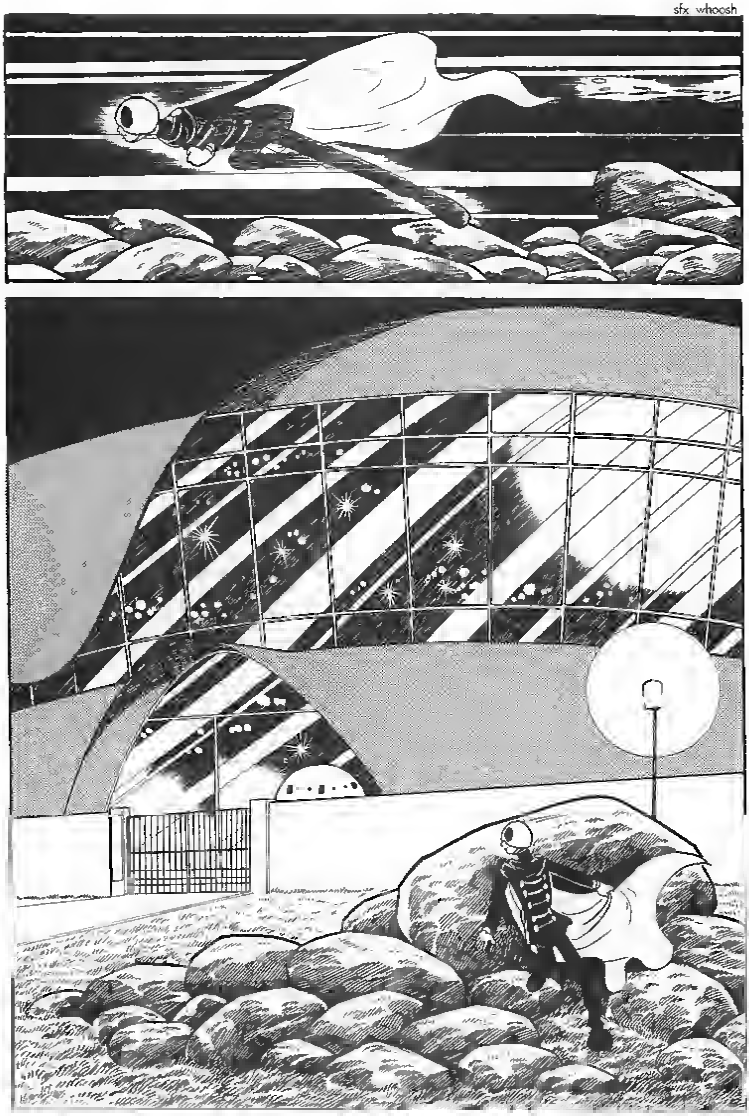
sfx krm krm krm krm
sfx Crooaaaash

sfx: Whm
sfx: KaBoooom

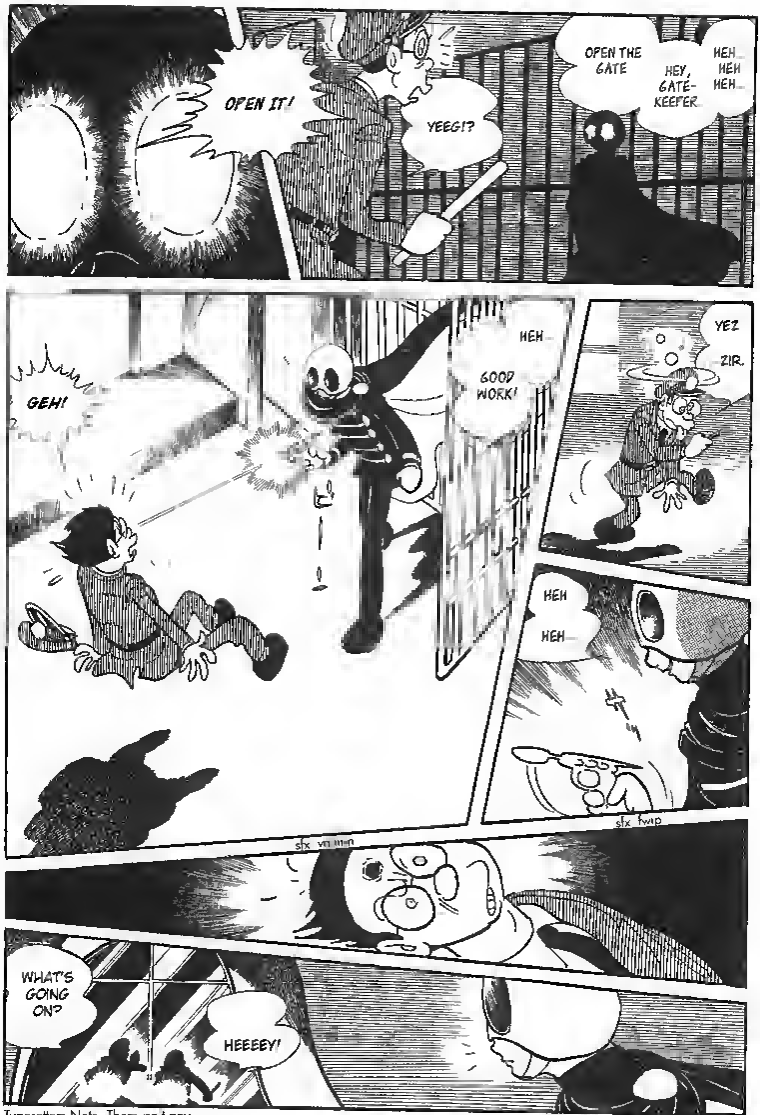
sfx: Smaaaaash

ズガーン

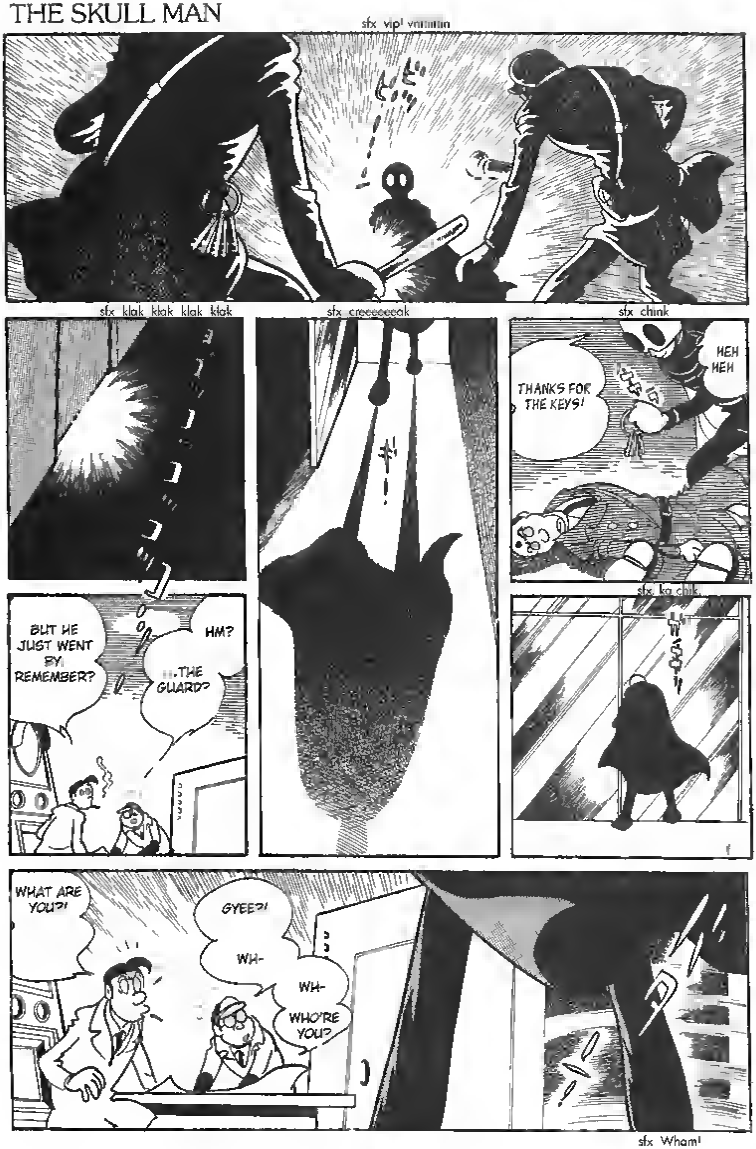
sfx: scuff
sfx: tmp!
sfx: whoosh
sfx: to tmp

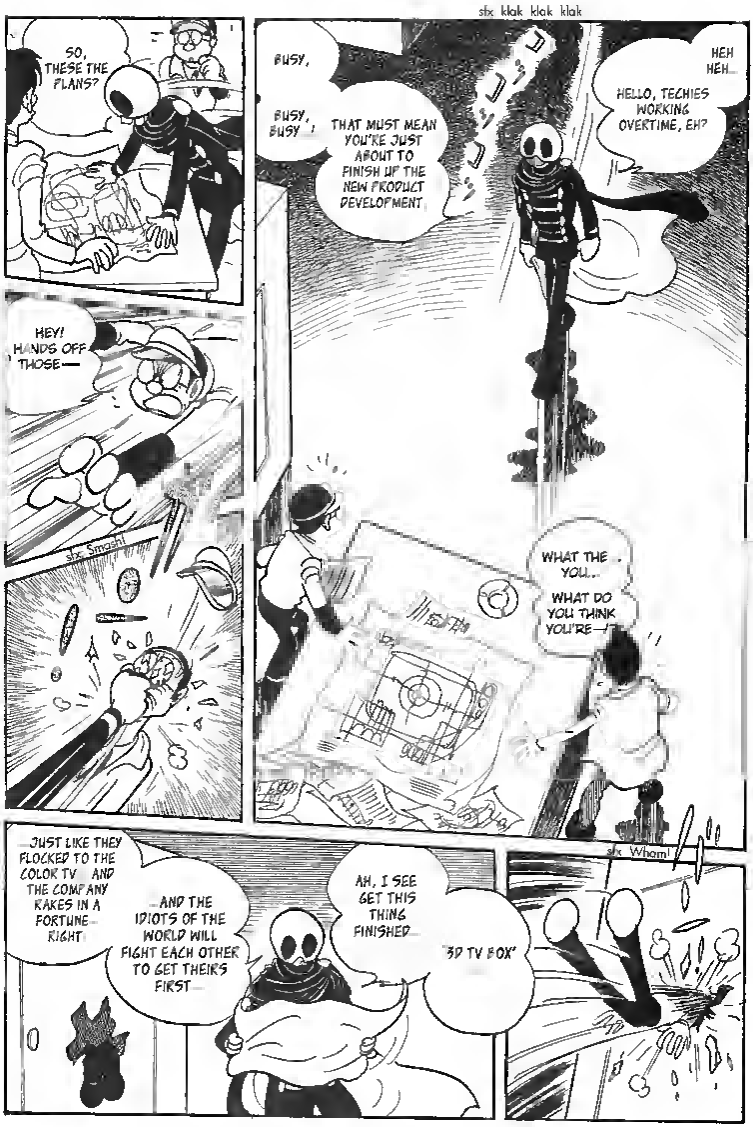

sfx whoosh

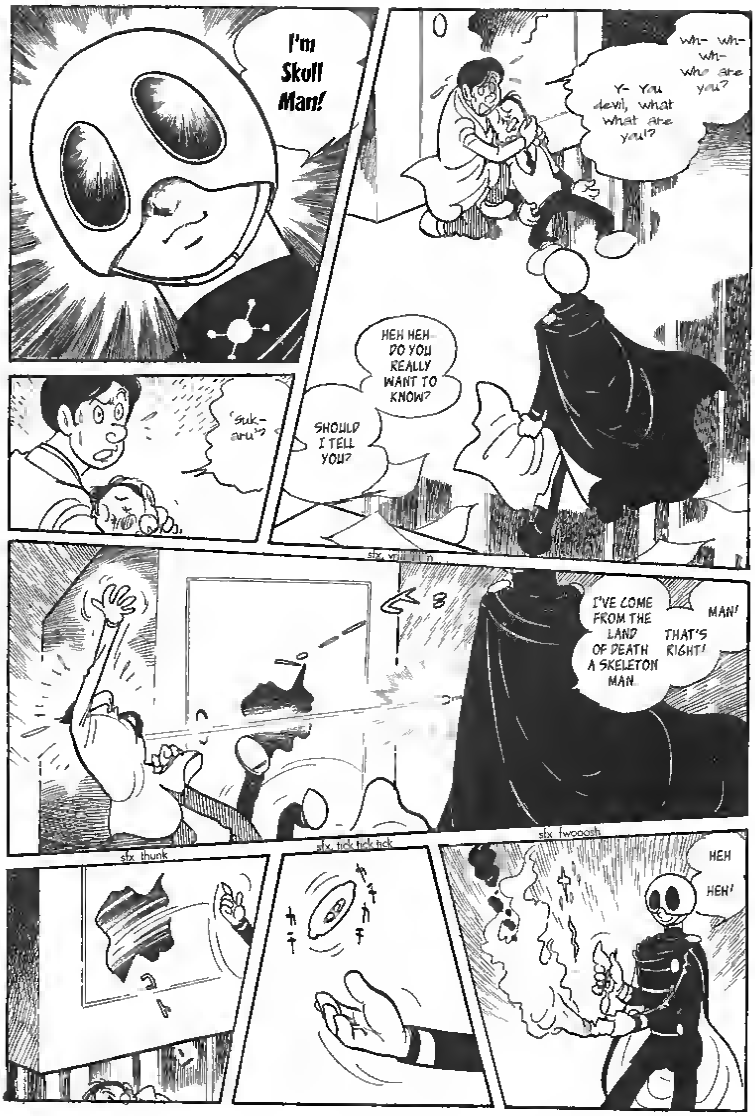
sfx (above) snooze snooze
sfx (above) ss ss ss
sfx Craaaaaash
ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY LABORATORIES
Y-
YOU...?!
OOG—
WH-
WH-
WH-
WHOZ-ZAT —!?

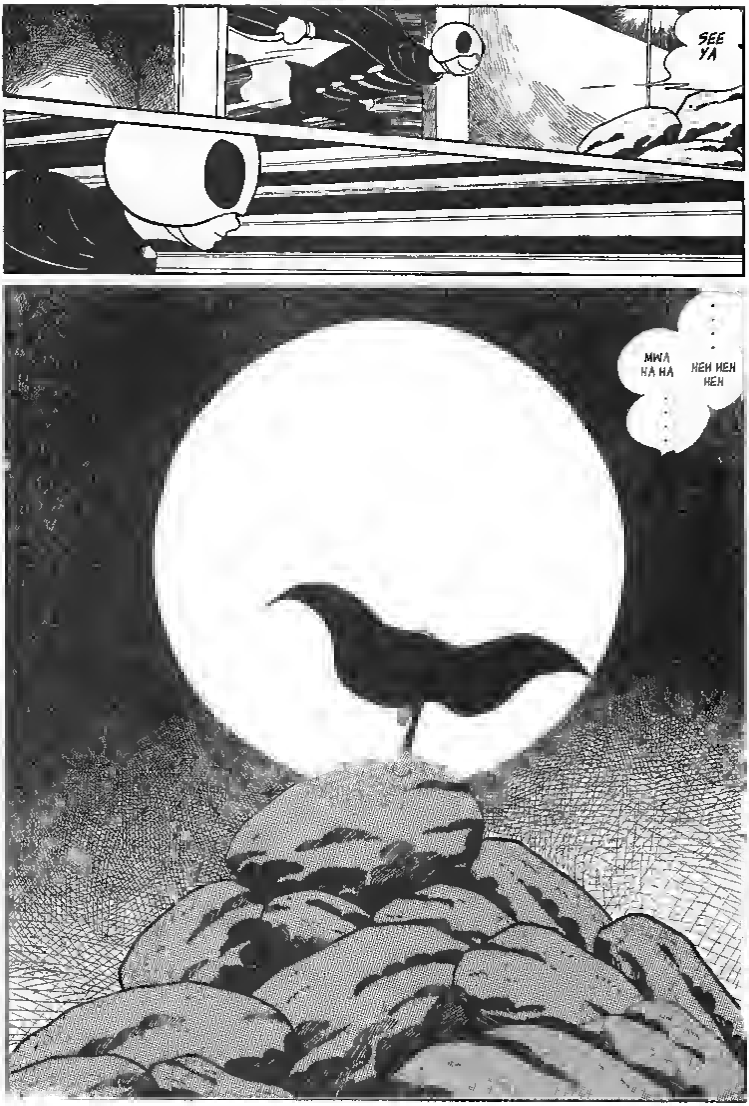



Typesetters Note- There isn't any missing text- the author just draws weird bubbles.


sfx vip! vmmmm
sfx klak klak klak klak
sfx creeeeeeak
sfx chink
HEH HEH
THANKS FOR THE KEYS!
sfx ka chik
BUT HE JUST WENT BY. REMEMBER?
HM?
...THE GUARD?
WHAT ARE YOU?!
GYEE?!
WH-
WH-
WHO'RE YOU?
sfx Wham!


SO, THESE THE PLANS?
HEY! HANDS OFF THOSE—
tfx Smash!
BUSY, BUSY, BUSY...
THAT MUST MEAN YOU'RE JUST ABOUT TO FINISH UP THE NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
tfx klak klak klak
HEH HEH...
HELLO, TECHIES WORKING OVERTIME, EH?
WHAT THE YOU...
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE—!
tfx Wham!
...JUST LIKE THEY FLOCKED TO THE COLOR TV AND THE COMPANY RAKES IN A FORTUNE—RIGHT
...AND THE IDIOTS OF THE WORLD WILL FIGHT EACH OTHER TO GET THEIRS FIRST—
AH, I SEE GET THIS THING FINISHED—
"3D TV BOX"


I'm Skull Man!
Wh- wh- wh- who are you?
Y- You devil, what what are you!?
HEH HEH... DO YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW?
SHOULD I TELL YOU?
'Suk- aru'?
sfx: whoosh
I'VE COME FROM THE LAND OF DEATH A SKELETON MAN.
THAT'S RIGHT!
MAN!
sfx: thunk
sfx: tick tick tick
sfx: fwoosh
HEH
HEH!

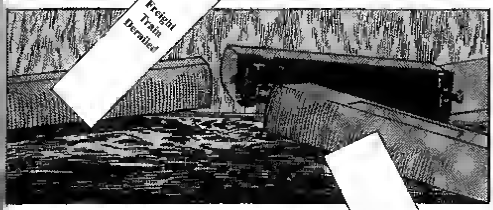

SEE YA
MWA HA HA
HEH HEH HEH

AH HA HA
HA HA HA.....

**Popular Television Actress**

Hanato Ryuuko-san murdered
Brutal, grotesque murder – The work of a pervert!?

Freight Train Derailed



Explosion – A pre-meditated crime?

**Car Accident?**

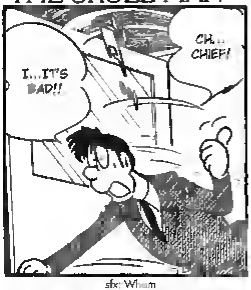
Secretary of People's Party council member went over a cliff in his car — Instant death

**Fire at Mitsugata KK Electrical Lab**

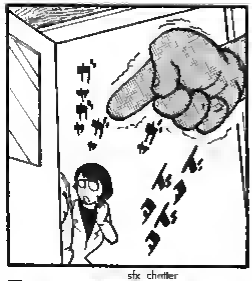
**Four dead, one seriously injured.**

**Accidental fire during experiment?**

THERE'S NO MISTAKE. THIS IS 'HIS' DOING!
IT'S 'HIM!'
shr. ikarn
THE ELECTRICAL RESEARCH LAB...
THE FREIGHT TRAIN
THE SECRETARY
THE ACTRESS
...
BUT THEY'RE CLEARLY CONNECTED BY A SINGLE THREAD!
AT FIRST GLANCE THEY SEEM COMPLETELY SEPARATE
'SKULL MAN', HUH!
shk click
'HE' CALLED HIMSELF SKULL MAN'
HE SUSTAINED SERIOUS INJURIES BUT SURVIVED. ACCORDING TO HIS STORY...
ONE OF THE RESEARCHERS FAKED UNCONSCIOUSNESS AFTER BEING HIT



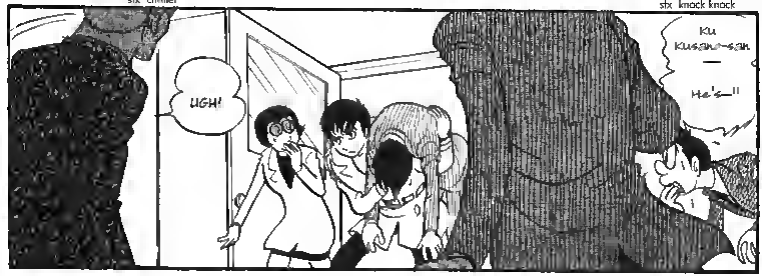

sfx: Wham



sfx: chatter

WE MUST NOT ALLOW 'HIM' TO RUN FREE ANY LONGER!
A PERVERSE SERIAL MURDERER!
A TERRIBLE MESSENGER FROM THE LAND OF DEATH!
A 'SKULL MAN', INDEED!
NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES — WE'VE GOT TO ROOT 'HIM' OUT, CHOKE OUT THAT POISONOUS LIFE OF HIS...
. COME IN!

sfx: knock knock

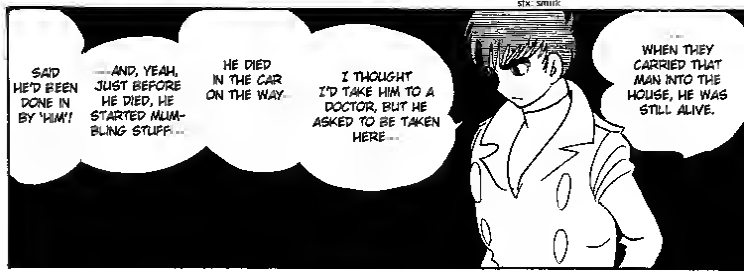


KAGURA
TATSUO.
...ALTHOUGH I'M NOT HALF AS IMPRESSIVE AS MY NAME.
KAGURA?
...HE DIED IN THE CAR ON THE WAY HERE...
HE'S ALREADY DEAD!
YOU...
WHO ARE YOU!?
HE—
HE WHAT!?
'HE'?
WHO'S THIS 'HE'?
IT'S 'HIM'. 'HE' KILLED HIM!
KU...KUSANO SOMETHING...CHEWED HIS THROAT OUT...KILLED HIM!
TH...THIS WOUND!
HEH HEH... AS A WITNESS, I MIGHT HAVE TO GO TO THE POLICE, Y'KNOW!
OH, HEY... IF IT'S GONNA MAKE THINGS AWKWARD, I WON'T ASK. IT'S JUST...
...

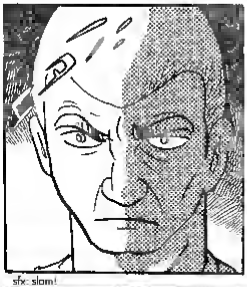
'ONE OF OUR GUYS'...?
HE'D COLLAPSED ON THE STREET NEAR MY HOUSE; ONE OF OUR GUYS FOUND HIM AND BROUGHT HIM OVER.
I DIDN'T.
... WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS MAN?

HEH! THE PLEASURE'S MINE...
DON'T KNOW HOW YOU HEARD THAT NAME, BUT I GUESS MY POP'S FAMOUS, TOO.
SO YOU'RE THE YOUNG LEADER OF THE KAGURA GROUP, THEN!
THE KAGURA GROUP...
WHEW... THE YAKUZA GANG THAT'S BEEN 'ADMINISTERING' THE ASAKUSA NEIGHBORHOOD SINCE WAY BACK...
THE KAGURA GROUP!

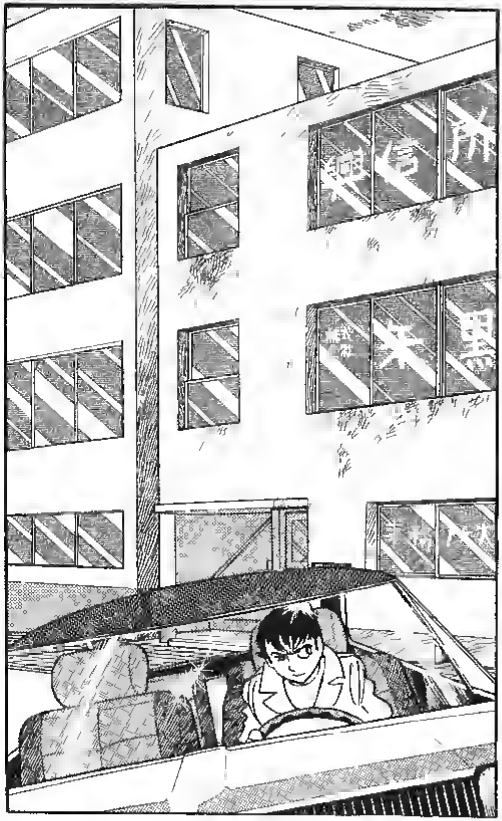
KAGURA!
I SEE!
I THOUGHT I'D HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE...

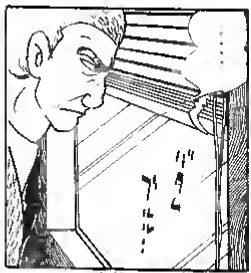

stx smirk
SAID HE'D BEEN DONE IN BY 'HIM'!
—AND, YEAH, JUST BEFORE HE DIED, HE STARTED MUMBLING STUFF...
HE DIED IN THE CAR ON THE WAY.
I THOUGHT I'D TAKE HIM TO A DOCTOR, BUT HE ASKED TO BE TAKEN HERE...
... WHEN THEY CARRIED THAT MAN INTO THE HOUSE, HE WAS STILL ALIVE.

SERIOUSLY, I'M SO BORED IT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY!
WHADDAYA SAY? I DUNNO WHAT'S UP, BUT HOW ABOUT LETTING ME IN ON THE ACTION?
SO, THAT'S WHERE I HEARD ABOUT THIS 'HIM', SEE?
I'M NOT GONNA BEG OR ANYTHING BUT IT JUST SOUNDS INTERESTING Y'KNOW?
HEH HEH!
KIDS THESE DAYS...! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
YOU... YOU THINK THIS IS SOME SORT OF GAME TO KILL TIME WITH...?
YOU'RE... BORED ...?!
WHAT I'D LIKE.
NO THANKS NEEDED.
YOU BROUGHT KUSANO IN ... I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THAT!
—RIGHT. IF, AND I MEAN IF, SOMETHING COMES UP THAT WE CAN USE YOUR HELP WITH, WE'LL CONTACT YOU
LATER.
NOON MEETING
—IS A FAVORABLE ANSWER TO THAT PROPOSITION

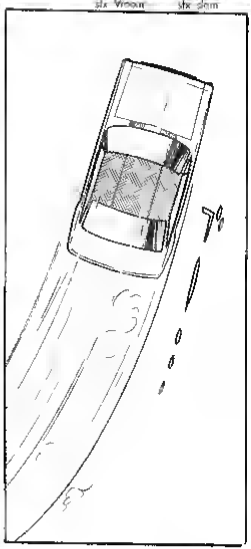


sfx: slam!





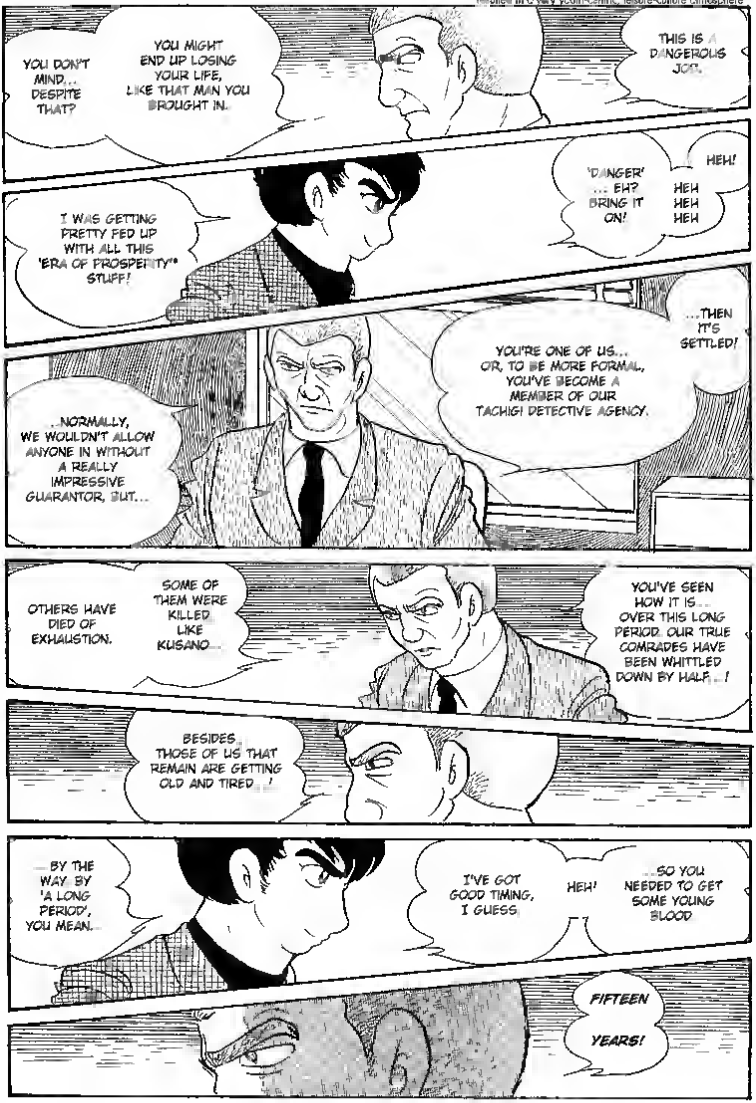
sfx: Vroom sfx: Slam

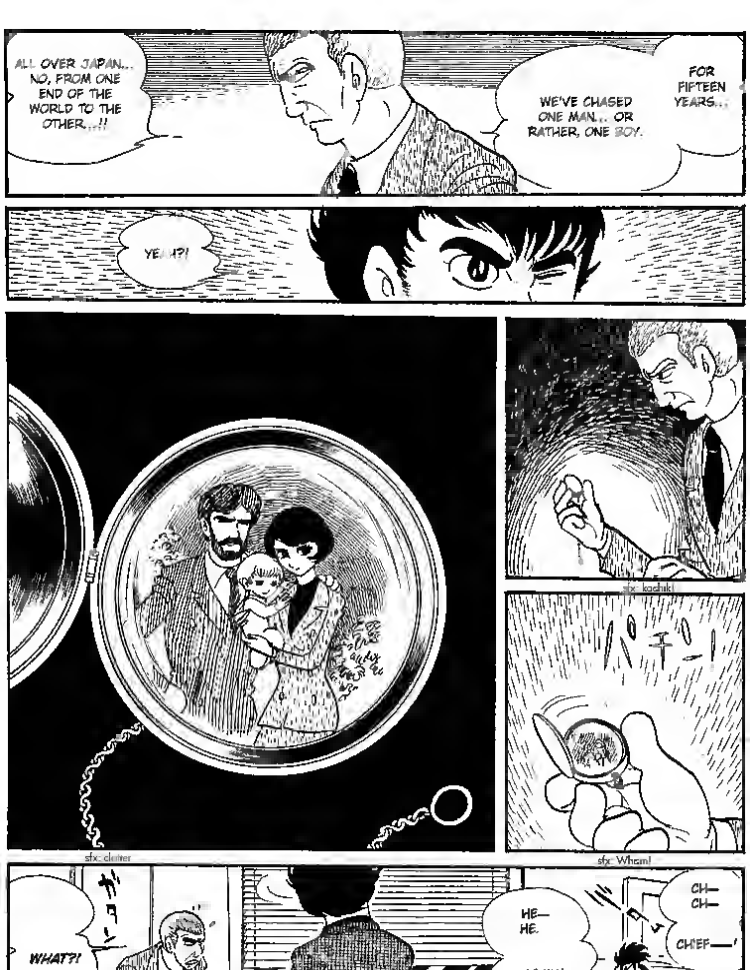


sfx: Rmm

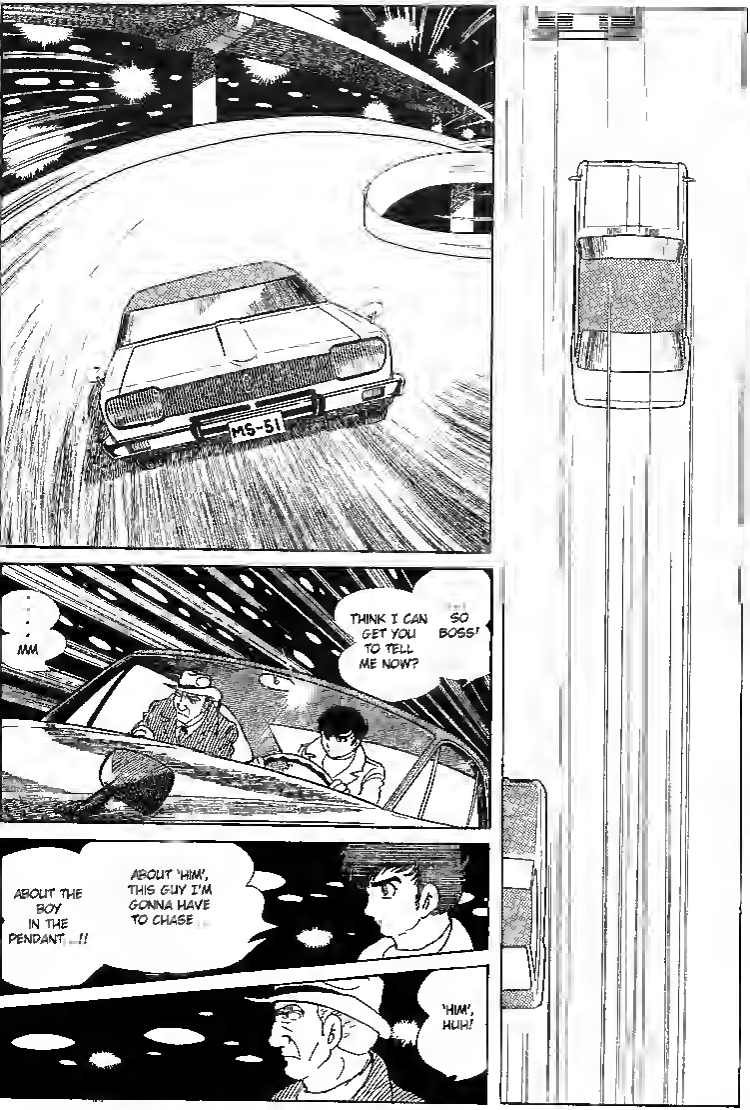
Rental Offices
Under Building
text on sign Tachibi Detective Agency Inc Shujura Trading Inc
WELL, I GUESS CHECKING UP ON PEOPLE'S KINDA YOUR SPECIALTY, AIN'T IT
HEH!
THAT'S WHY I'VE CALLED YOU HERE!
AND CONFIRMED THAT YOU'RE DEFINITELY THE SUCCESSOR TO THE KAGURA GROUP.
WE'VE CHECKED INTO YOUR IDENTITY...
...FEEL LIKE WORKING ON IT WITH US?
DO YOU STILL...
THIS JOB... IS SO BIG WE COULDN'T AFFORD TO DO ANYTHING ELSE!
I'M EVEN MORE INTERESTED THAN BEFORE!
SURE I DO!

*T/N: He literally says "Showa Genroku", which refers to the big economic boom Japan had in the '60s and early '70s. It resulted in a very youth-centric, leisure-culture atmosphere

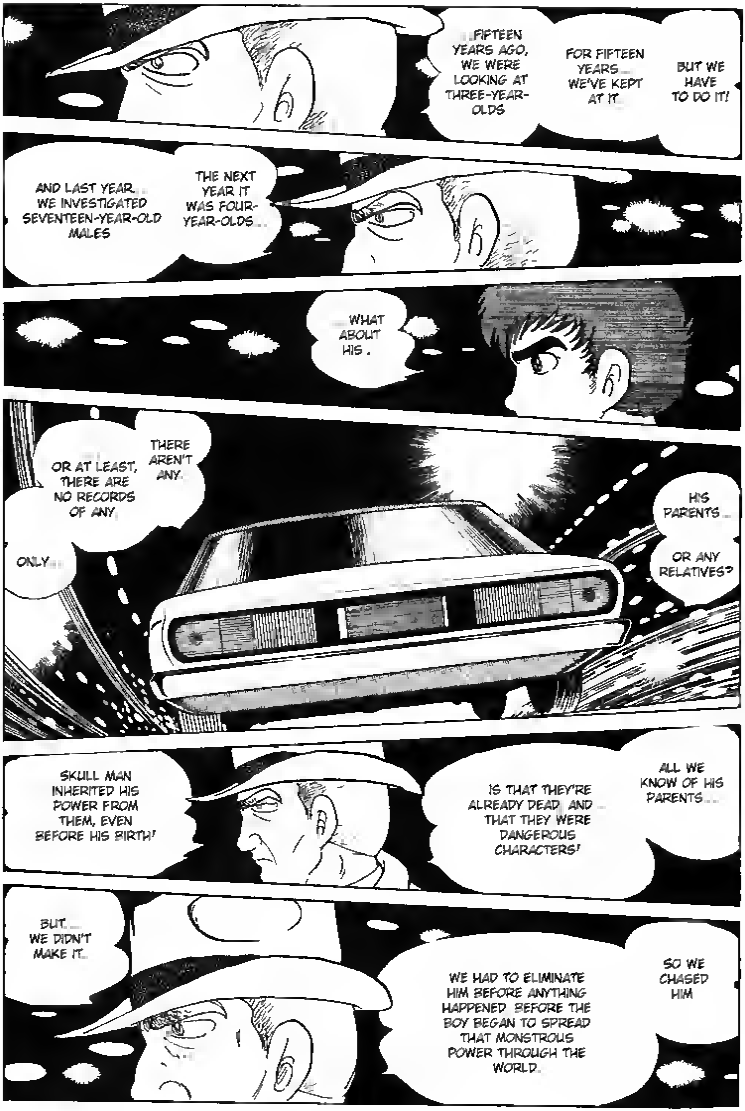

YOU DON'T MIND... DESPITE THAT?
YOU MIGHT END UP LOSING YOUR LIFE, LIKE THAT MAN YOU BROUGHT IN.
THIS IS A DANGEROUS JOB.
I WAS GETTING PRETTY FED UP WITH ALL THIS 'ERA OF PROSPERITY'* STUFF!
'DANGER' ... EH? BRING IT ON!
HEH!
HEH HEH HEH
...NORMALLY, WE WOULDN'T ALLOW ANYONE IN WITHOUT A REALLY IMPRESSIVE GUARANTOR, BUT...
YOU'RE ONE OF US... OR, TO BE MORE FORMAL, YOU'VE BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR TACHIGI DETECTIVE AGENCY.
...THEN IT'S SETTLED!
OTHERS HAVE DIED OF EXHAUSTION.
SOME OF THEM WERE KILLED LIKE KUSANO...
YOU'VE SEEN HOW IT IS... OVER THIS LONG PERIOD, OUR TRUE COMRADES HAVE BEEN WHITTLED DOWN BY HALF...!
BESIDES, THOSE OF US THAT REMAIN ARE GETTING OLD AND TIRED...!
...BY THE WAY, BY 'A LONG PERIOD', YOU MEAN...
I'VE GOT GOOD TIMING, I GUESS.
HEH!
...SO YOU NEEDED TO GET SOME YOUNG BLOOD
FIFTEEN YEARS!


ALL OVER JAPAN... NO, FROM ONE END OF THE WORLD TO THE OTHER...!!
WE'VE CHASED ONE MAN... OR RATHER, ONE BOY.
FOR FIFTEEN YEARS...
YE...!?!
sfx: kachik
sfx: clatter
sfx: Whsm!
WHAT?!
HE— HE.
AGAIN!
CH— CH—
CHIEF—!

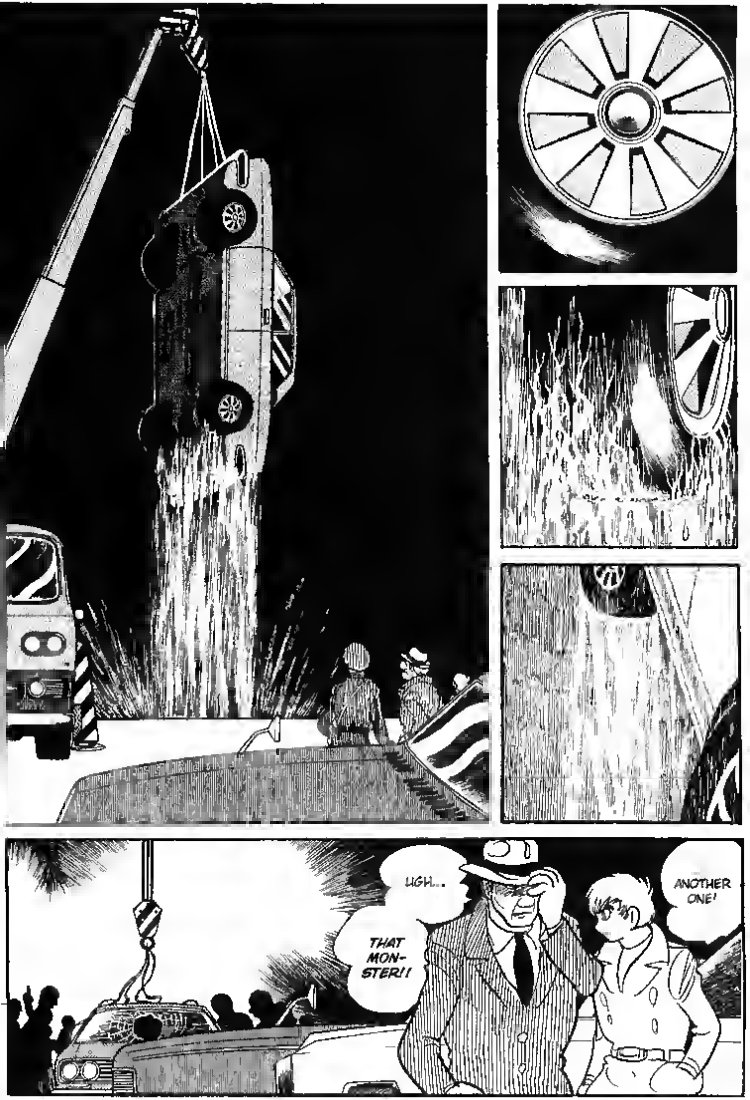
警視庁
IS IT 'HIM'?
NOT AGAIN
NOT
DA
DAMMIT!
DAMMIT


MS-51
SO BOSS!
THINK I CAN GET YOU TO TELL ME NOW?
...
MM
ABOUT 'HIM', THIS GUY I'M GONNA HAVE TO CHASE...
ABOUT THE BOY IN THE PENDANT...!!
'HIM', HUH!

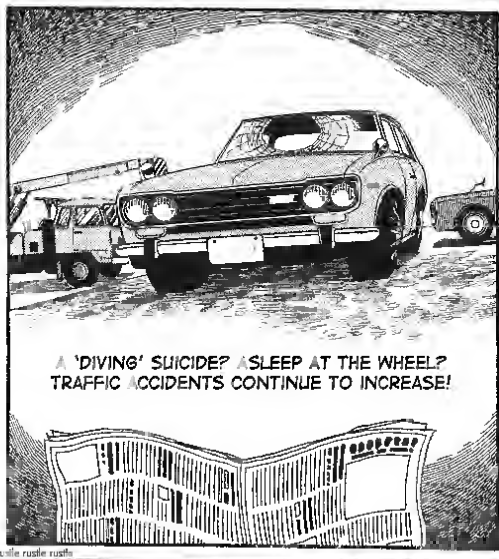
HE THINKS NOTHING OF KILLING PEOPLE...
AND HE'S A MASS-MURDERER, STARVED FOR BLOOD!
'HE' CALLS HIMSELF SKULL MAN...
ONE COULD CALL HIM A MURDER ADDICT!
HE'S A DANGEROUS MAN!
HE'S A MONSTER!
NO... RATHER, HE SEEMS TO ENJOY IT...
MEANING THAT THIS SKULL MAN IS NOW EIGHTEEN!
THAT WAS FIFTEEN YEARS AGO...
THAT PHOTO WAS TAKEN WHEN HE WAS THREE YEARS OLD
WOW THAT'S MY AGE!
EIGHT-EEN...!
HEH!
SO WE'RE INVESTIGATING EVERY EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD MALE... FROM THE NORTH OF JAPAN TO THE FAR SOUTH
YES
THAT'S... ALMOST INSANE!


...FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, WE WERE LOOKING AT THREE-YEAR-OLDS
FOR FIFTEEN YEARS... WE'VE KEPT AT IT
BUT WE HAVE TO DO IT!
AND LAST YEAR... WE INVESTIGATED SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD MALES
THE NEXT YEAR IT WAS FOUR-YEAR-OLDS...
...WHAT ABOUT HIS.
THERE AREN'T ANY.
OR AT LEAST, THERE ARE NO RECORDS OF ANY.
ONLY...
HIS PARENTS...
OR ANY RELATIVES?
SKULL MAN INHERITED HIS POWER FROM THEM, EVEN BEFORE HIS BIRTH!
IS THAT THEY'RE ALREADY DEAD. AND... THAT THEY WERE DANGEROUS CHARACTERS!
ALL WE KNOW OF HIS PARENTS...
BUT... WE DIDN'T MAKE IT.
WE HAD TO ELIMINATE HIM BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENED. BEFORE THE BOY BEGAN TO SPREAD THAT MONSTROUS POWER THROUGH THE WORLD.
SO WE CHASED HIM

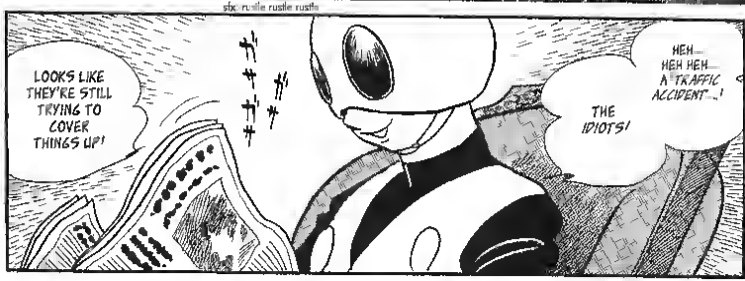
A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, 'HE' BEGAN TO MOVE — AS 'SKULL MAN'
ERG . . .
BUT THAT'S TOO WEIRD!
SOMEONE THAT POWERFUL HAS BEEN RAGING AROUND CAUSING HAVOC AND I NEVER KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT
I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD THINGS, ONLY IN A DIFFERENT WAY!
THERE WERE CERTAIN THINGS ABOUT BOTH WHICH ARE BEING WITHHELD FROM THE PRESS!
THE RECENT MURDER OF THAT ACTRESS, FOR EXAMPLE, OR THE FREIGHT TRAIN EXPLOSION...


UGH...
ANOTHER ONE!
THAT MON-STER!!

WE'RE ALMOST THERE! SOON, VERY SOON, WE'LL HAVE HIM!!
ALMOST THERE ....
HOWEVER
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT 'HE' SKULL MAN, FEARS OUR EXISTENCE AND HAS STARTED TO RUSH THINGS!



sfx: rustle rustle rustle



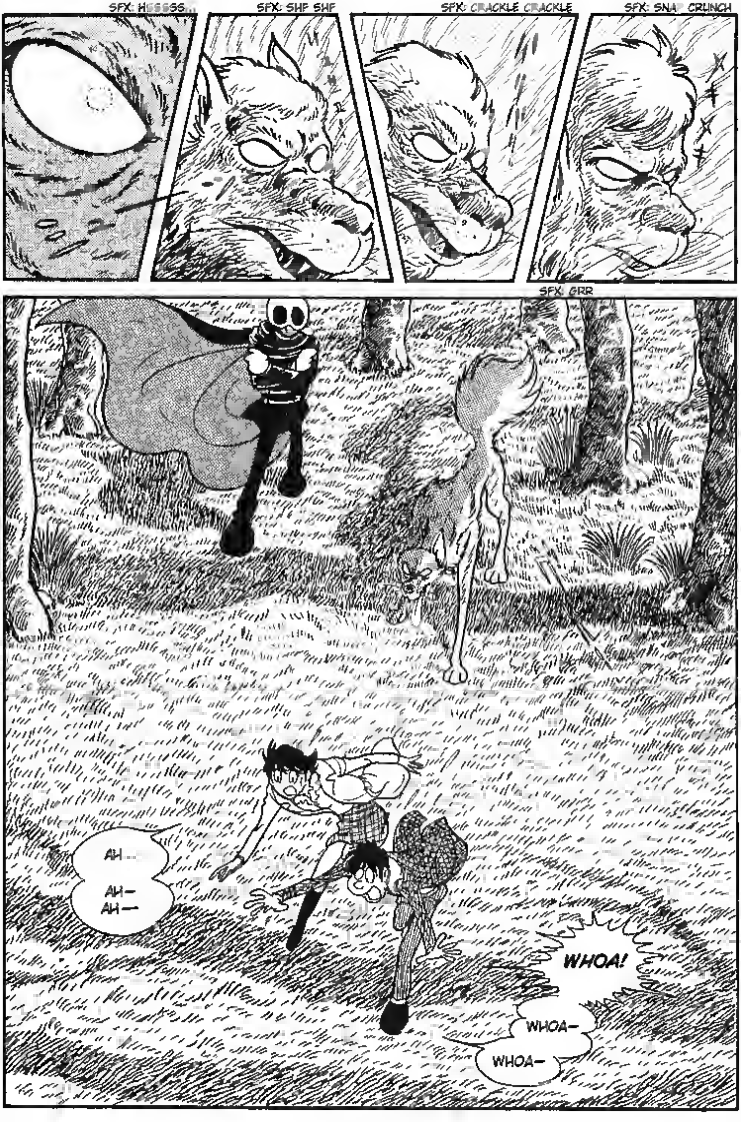
OKAY, GARO!
HEH HEH!
WELL NOT THAT IT MATTERS TO ME WHAT THEY DO
SKULL MAN WILL SEND 'EM DOWN TO HADES... WITH A FUNERAL WREATH OF BLOOD!!
WE'LL FINISH 'EM ALL... KILL EVERYONE THAT'S CONNECTED BY THAT FILTHY CHAIN...
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH...
HEH HEH...
GO OUT AND HUNT 'EM DOWN...!
SHALL WE GO?!

LET'S GO!

SFX: VROOM VROOM VROOM

SFX. SAM!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, EMI?!
HEY! WAIT!
C'MON, WAIT UP!
KYAAAAAAA!
STOP IT!
I SAID NO!

Wha
What the heck!?
SFX: SHF...
SFX: CRUNCH CRUNCH
SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE
SFX: HSSS HSSS SHF SHF SHF
SFX: SHF SHF SHF SHF
SFX: CRACK CRACKLE CRACKLE


SFX: HISSSS...
SFX: SHF SHF
SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE
SFX: SNA CRUNCH
SFX: GRR
AH...
AH—
AH—
WHOA!
WHOA—
WHOA—

GYAAAH
SFX: GASH!
SFX: SNARL
UGH
...

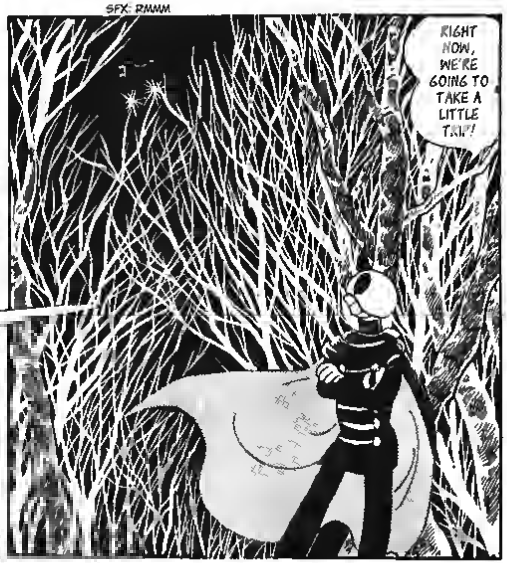
FU...
FU FU
AH ...!
... OH—
MISS, YOUR LUCK RAN OUT WHEN YOU STARTED SEEING THAT PLAYBOY!
SFX: SHF SHF
SFX: WSH WSH WSH
SFX: FWIP

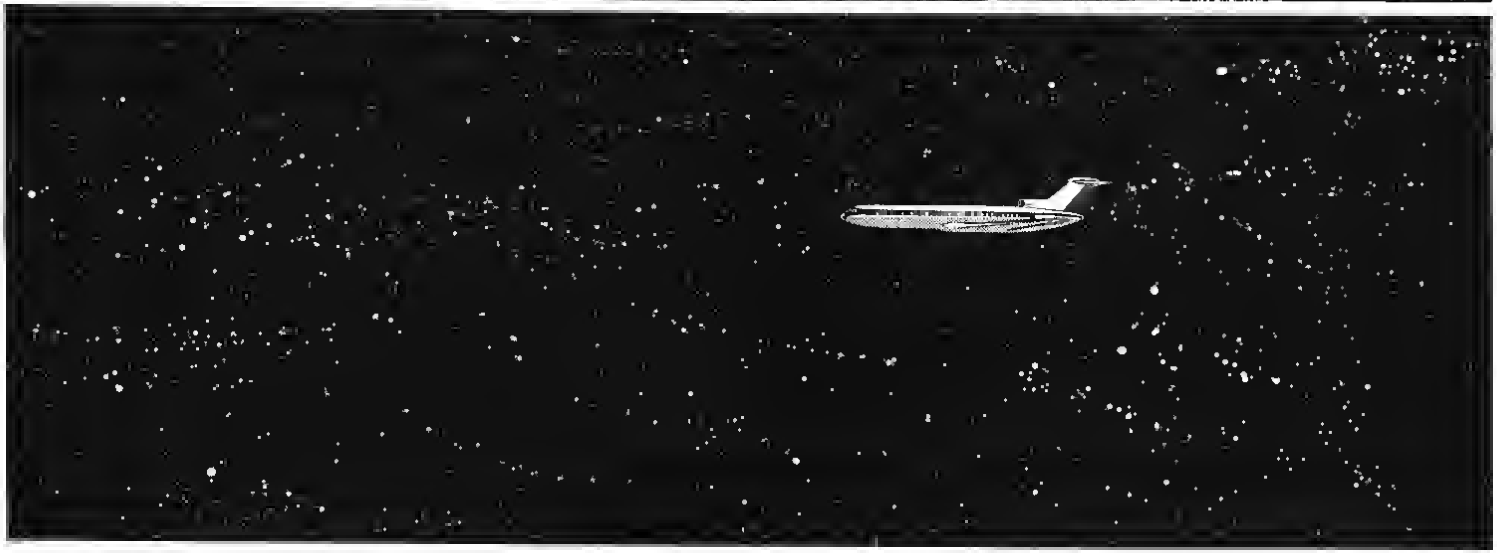
SFX: CRUNCH!
HUH!?
HEEEY, TANAKA!
WHERE ARE YOU? DIDJA MAKE THIRD BASE?

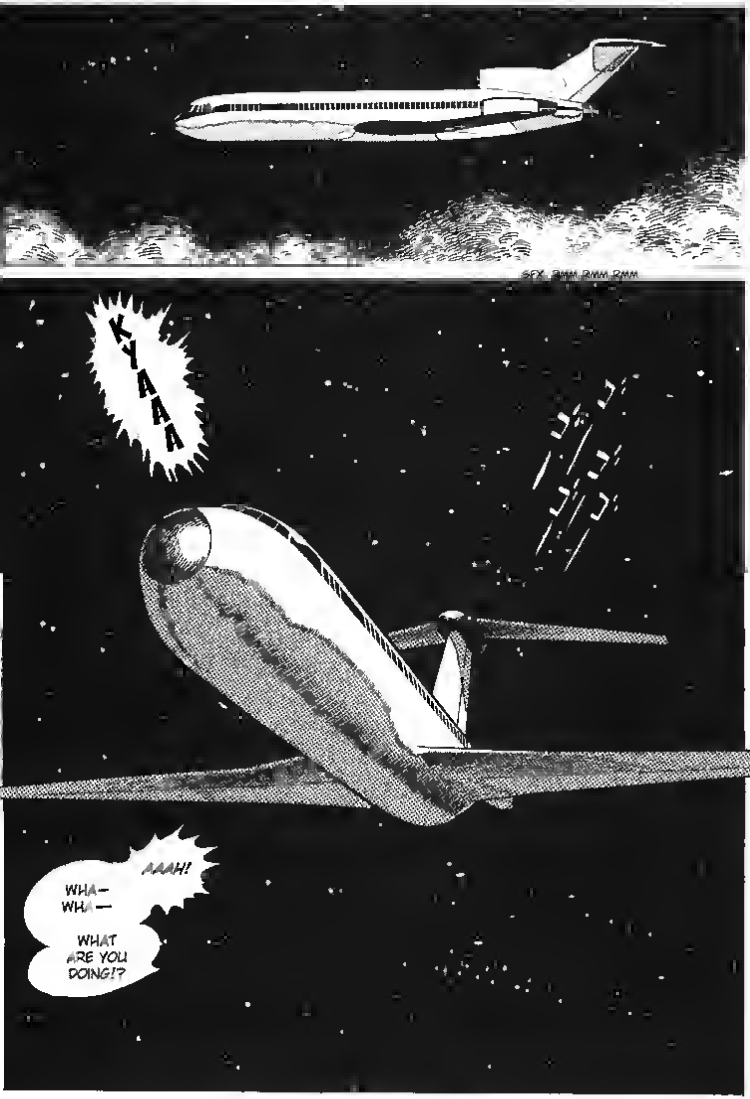
SFX SHF SHF SHF
SFX CRICKLE CRICKLE
SFX RUSTLE RUSTLE
SFX SNAP SNAP SNAP
Wh-what's that!?
HUH!?

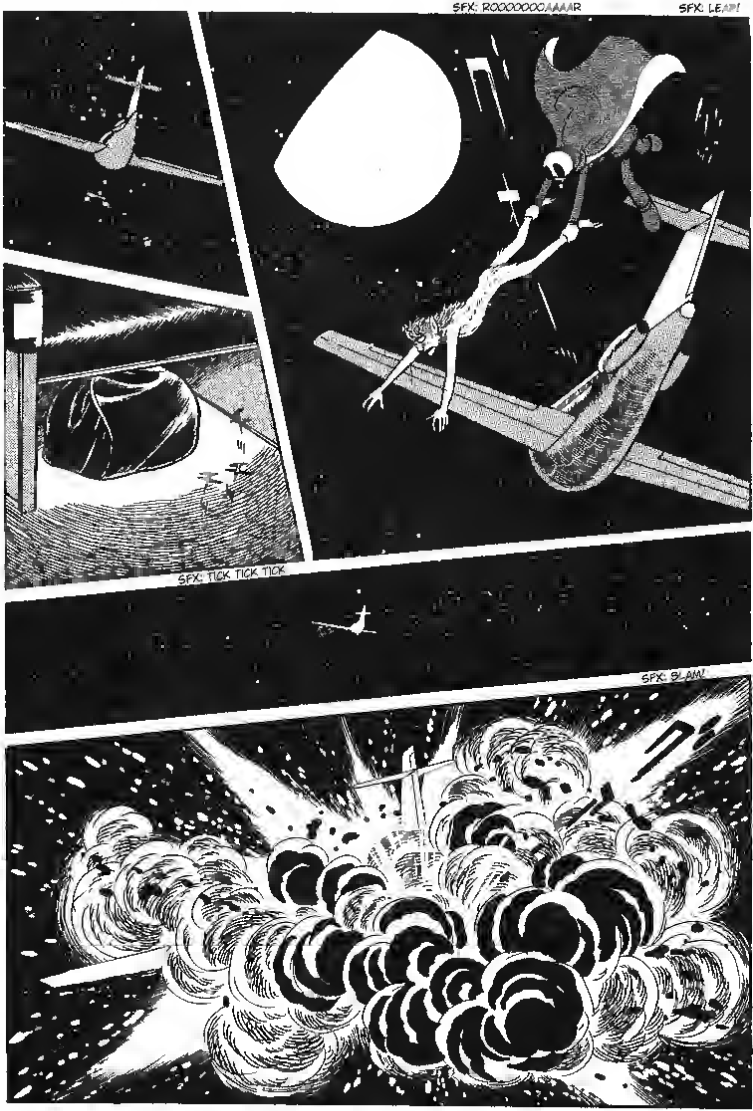
SFX: LOOM!
SFX: WHOOSH
AAAH !!
GAH!
SFX: CHOMP
FU FU FU...
THAT GARO HE'S ACTUALLY ENJOYING HIMSELF!
FU FU... WE'LL PICK THIS UP AGAIN TOMORROW...

C5-63DX
BOEING - 727

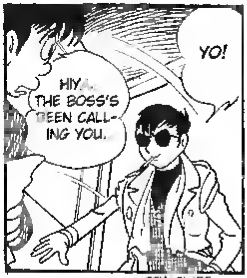

SFX: PMMM
RIGHT NOW, WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE TRIP!



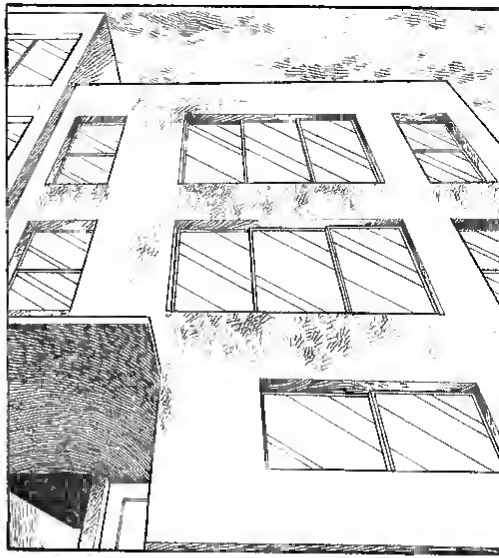

SFX: RMM RMM RMM
KYAAAA
AAAH!
WHA—
WHA—
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

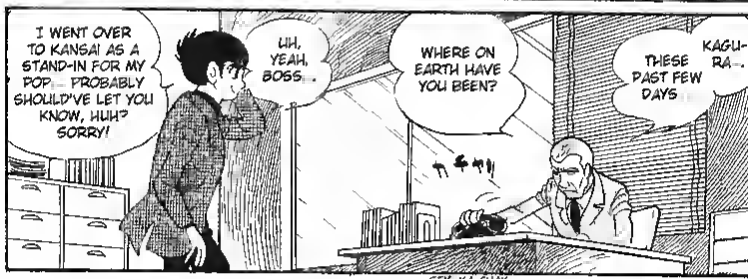

SFX: ROOOOOOOAAAAR
SFX: LEAP!
SFX: TICK TICK TICK
SFX: SLAM!

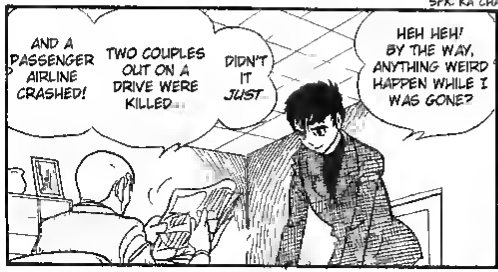
SPY WARIAN...


YO!
HIY... THE BOSS'S BEEN CALLING YOU.

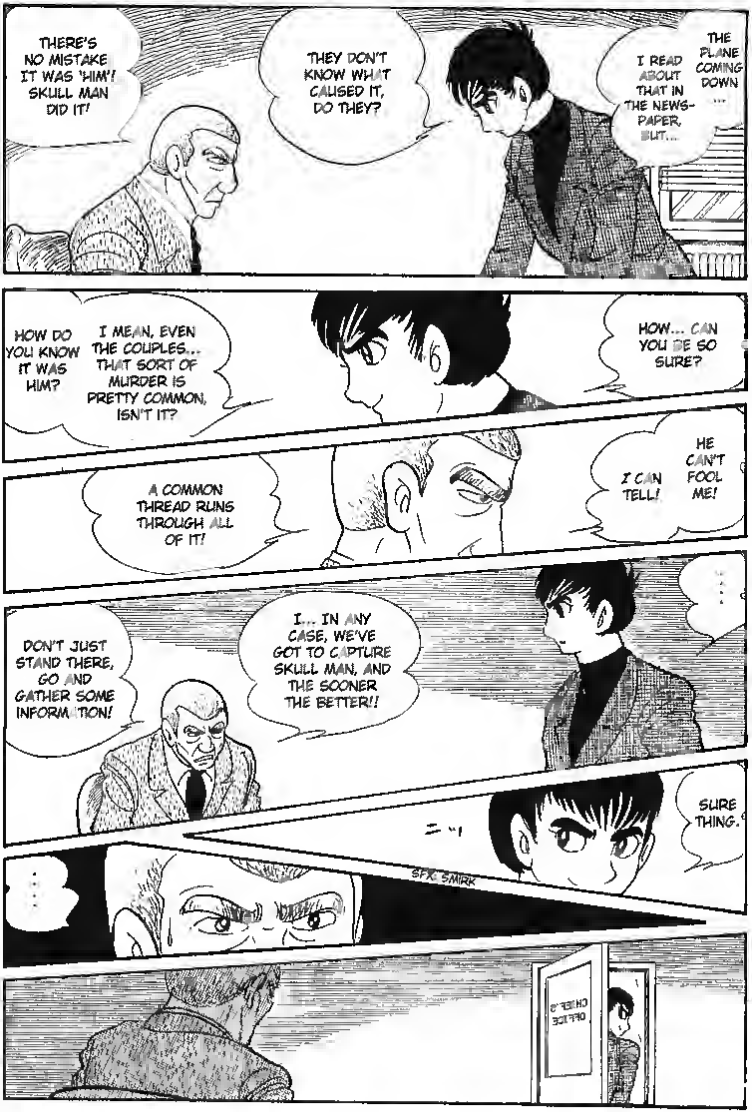
SFX: GLARE

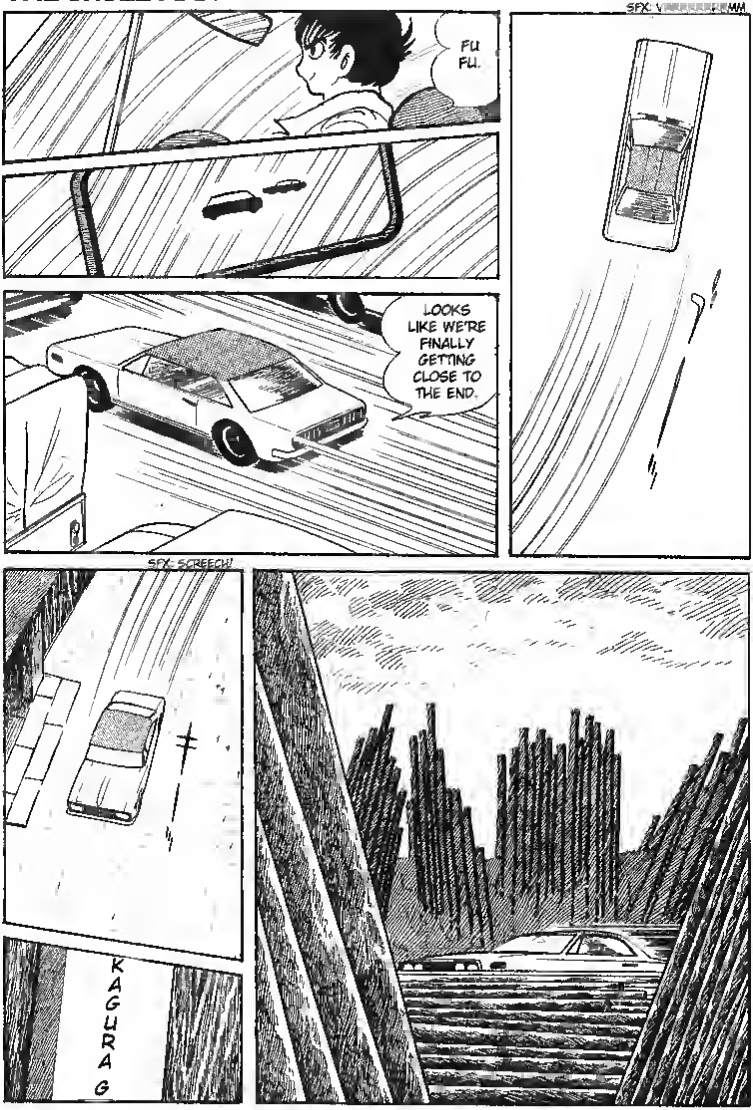


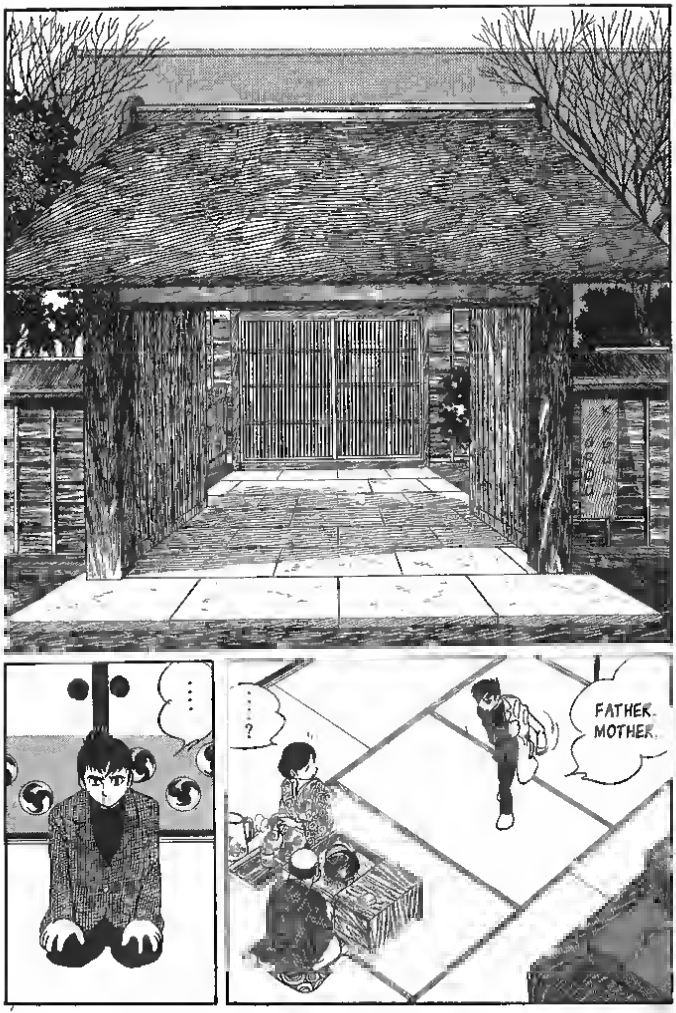

I WENT OVER TO KANSAI AS A STAND-IN FOR MY POP... PROBABLY SHOULD'VE LET YOU KNOW, HUH? SORRY!
UH, YEAH, BOSS...
WHERE ON EARTH HAVE YOU BEEN?
THESE PAST FEW DAYS... KAGURA-...
SFX: KA CHAK


AND A PASSENGER AIRLINE CRASHED!
TWO COUPLES OUT ON A DRIVE WERE KILLED...
DIDN'T IT JUST...
HEH HEH! BY THE WAY, ANYTHING WEIRD HAPPEN WHILE I WAS GONE?

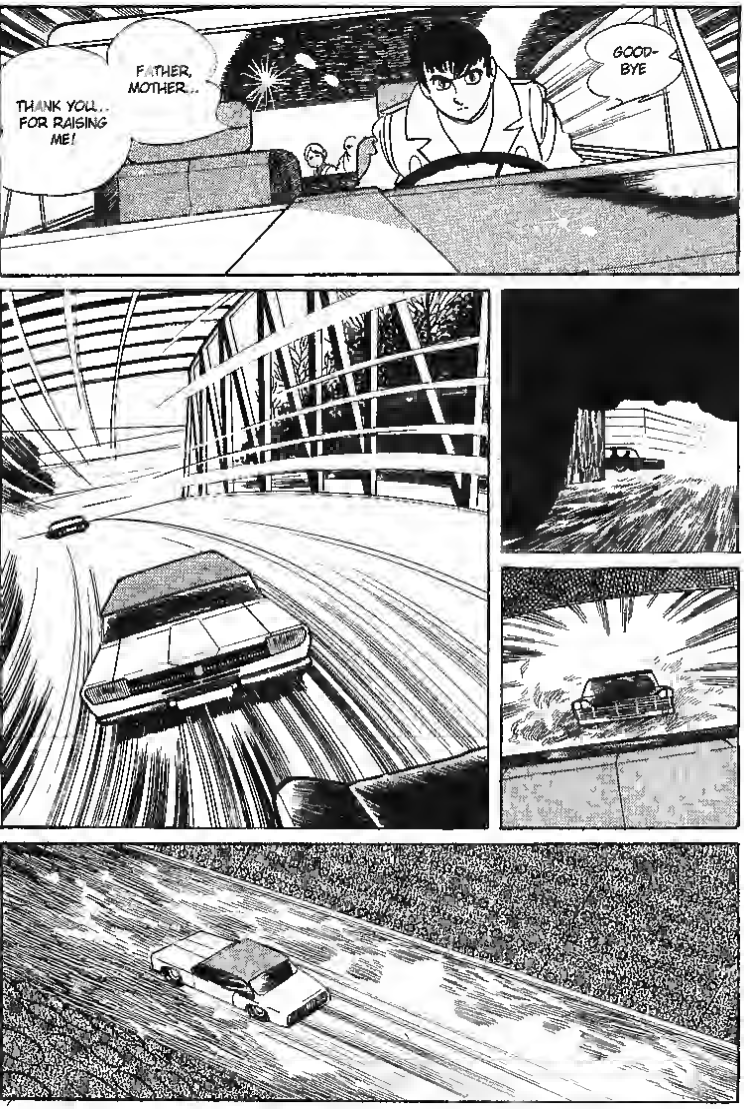
HM...

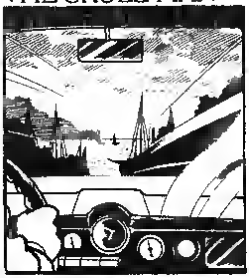

THERE'S NO MISTAKE IT WAS 'HIM'! SKULL MAN DID IT!
THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT CAUSED IT, DO THEY?
I READ ABOUT THAT IN THE NEWS-PAPER, BUT...
THE PLANE COMING DOWN ...
HOW DO YOU KNOW IT WAS HIM?
I MEAN, EVEN THE COUPLES... THAT SORT OF MURDER IS PRETTY COMMON, ISN'T IT?
HOW... CAN YOU BE SO SURE?
A COMMON THREAD RUNS THROUGH ALL OF IT!
I CAN TELL!
HE CAN'T FOOL ME!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, GO AND GATHER SOME INFORMATION!
I... IN ANY CASE, WE'VE GOT TO CAPTURE SKULL MAN, AND THE SOONER THE BETTER!!
SURE THING.
SFX: SMIRK
OFFICE

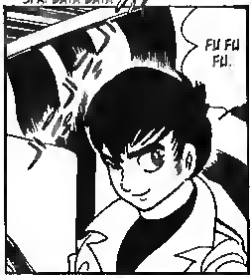

FU FU.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE FINALLY GETTING CLOSE TO THE END.
SFX: SCREECH!
KAGURA G


.....
.....?
FATHER.
MOTHER.

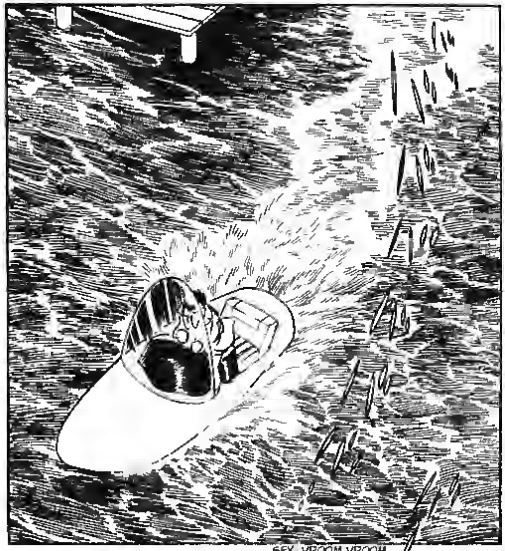
WHAT... WHAT IS IT, TATSUO?
WHY THE FORMALITY, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
EH? OH... NO.
THAT'S NOT... DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
IT'S JUST... I'LL BE GOING AWAY FOR A WHILE SO...
AWAY?
YEAH
IT'S... AN ERRAND FOR THE COMPANY I'M WITH NOW...
WILL YOU BE GONE LONG?
I DON'T KNOW...
SEE YOU.
BE CAREFUL, DEAR...


THANK YOU.. FOR RAISING ME!
FATHER, MOTHER..
GOOD-BYE

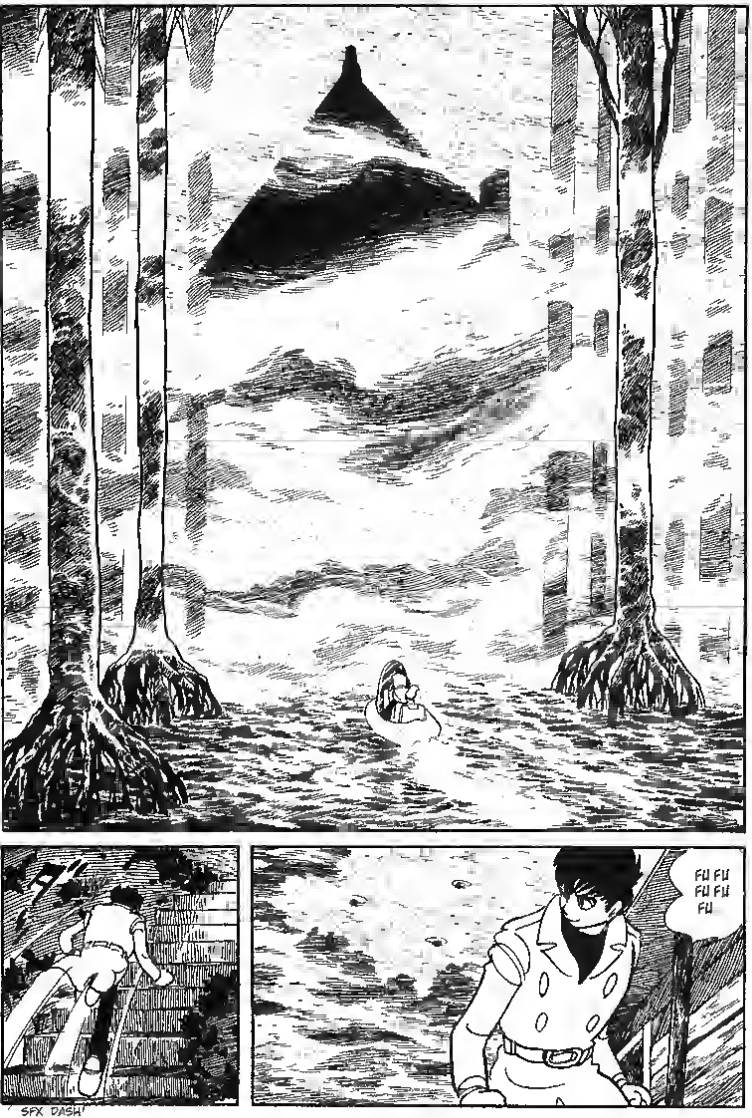



SFX: BATA BATA
FU FU FU.

SFX: BATA BATA

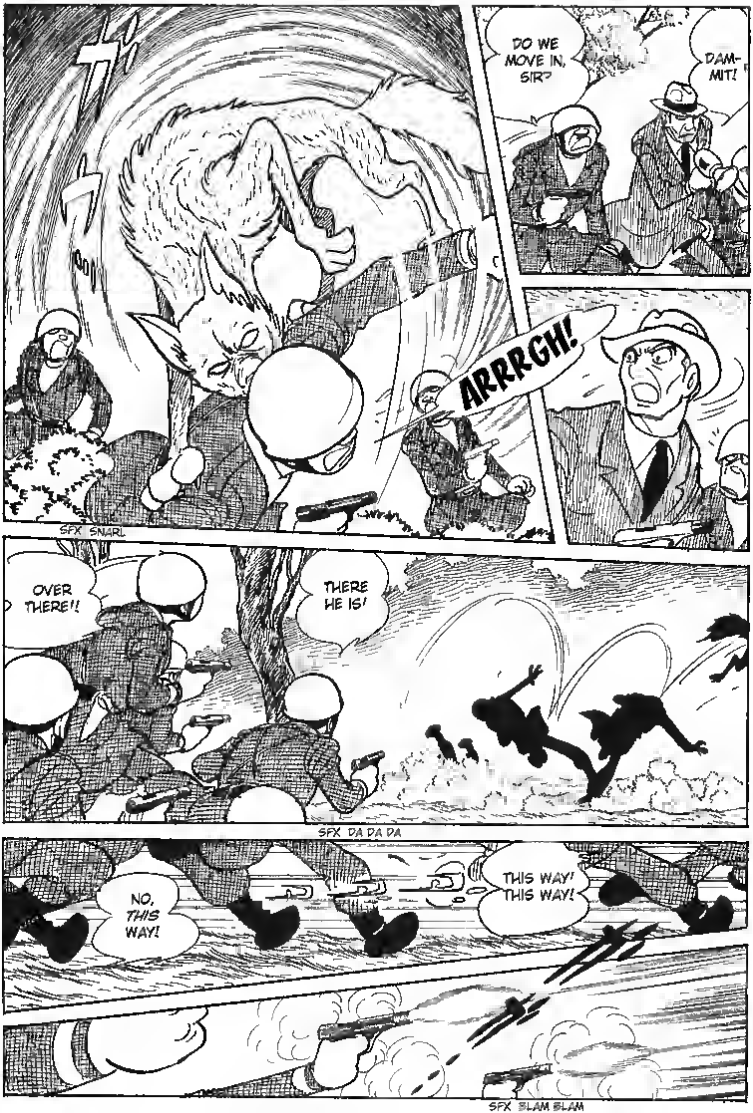


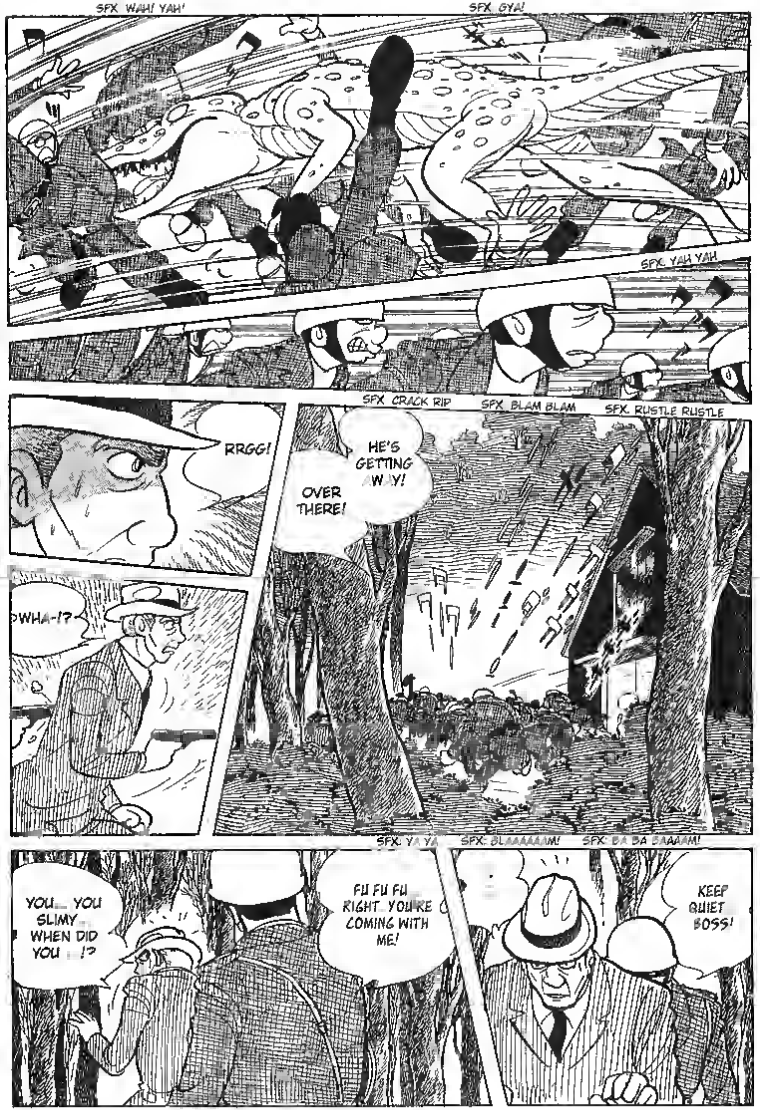
SFX: VROOM VROOM

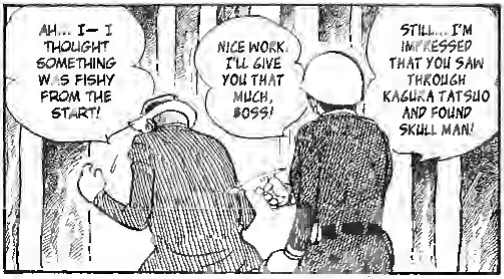

SFX DASH!
FU FU FU FU FU

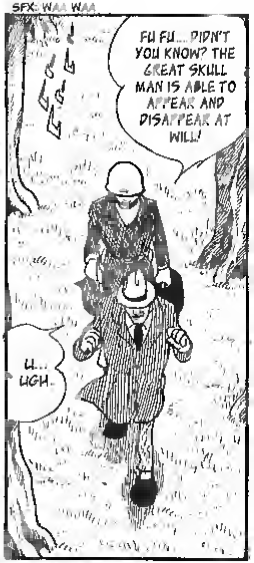
TODAY, WE'LL FINISH EVERY-THING...
THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY START GETTING READY, JUST LIKE WE PLANNED
GARO!
FU FU FU FU FU...
WE'LL CLOSE THE CURTAIN ON THIS
EVERY LAST THING...
SFX: VROOM VROOM VROOM
SFX: DA DA DA DA
SFX: TMP!

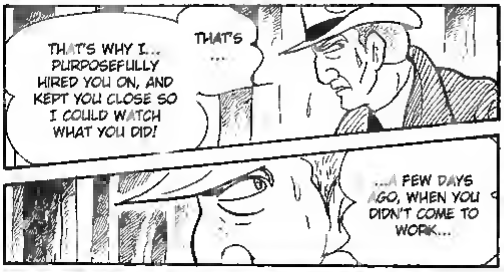
SFX: DA DA DA
YOU CAN'T RUN ANYMORE! WE HAVE AN ARMY SURROUNDING THIS PLACE!
COME OUT!
COME OUT, TATSUO!
WE KNOW YOU'RE SKULL MAN!
SFX: SILENCE

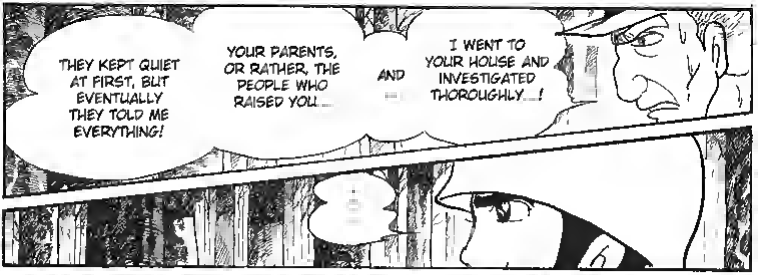

DO WE MOVE IN, SIR?
DAM-MIT!
ARRRGH!
SFX SNARL
OVER THERE!!
THERE HE IS!
SFX DA DA DA
NO, THIS WAY!
THIS WAY! THIS WAY!
SFX BLAM BLAM

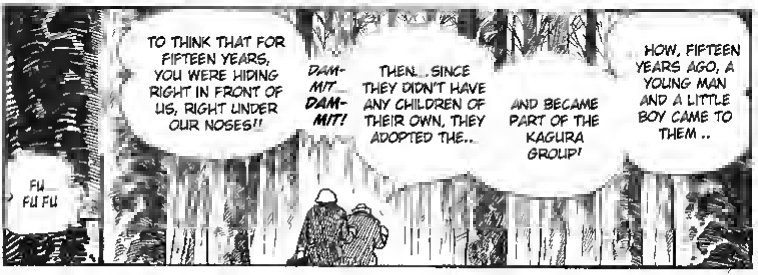

SFX: WAH! YAH!
SFX: GYA!
SFX: YAH YAH
SFX: CRACK RIP
SFX: BLAM BLAM
SFX: RUSTLE RUSTLE
RRGG!
HE'S GETTING AWAY!
OVER THERE!
WHA-!?
SFX: YA YA
SFX: BLAAAAAAM!
SFX: BA BA BAAAAM!
YOU... YOU SLIMY... WHEN DID YOU...!?
FU FU FU RIGHT... YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!
KEEP QUIET BOSS!

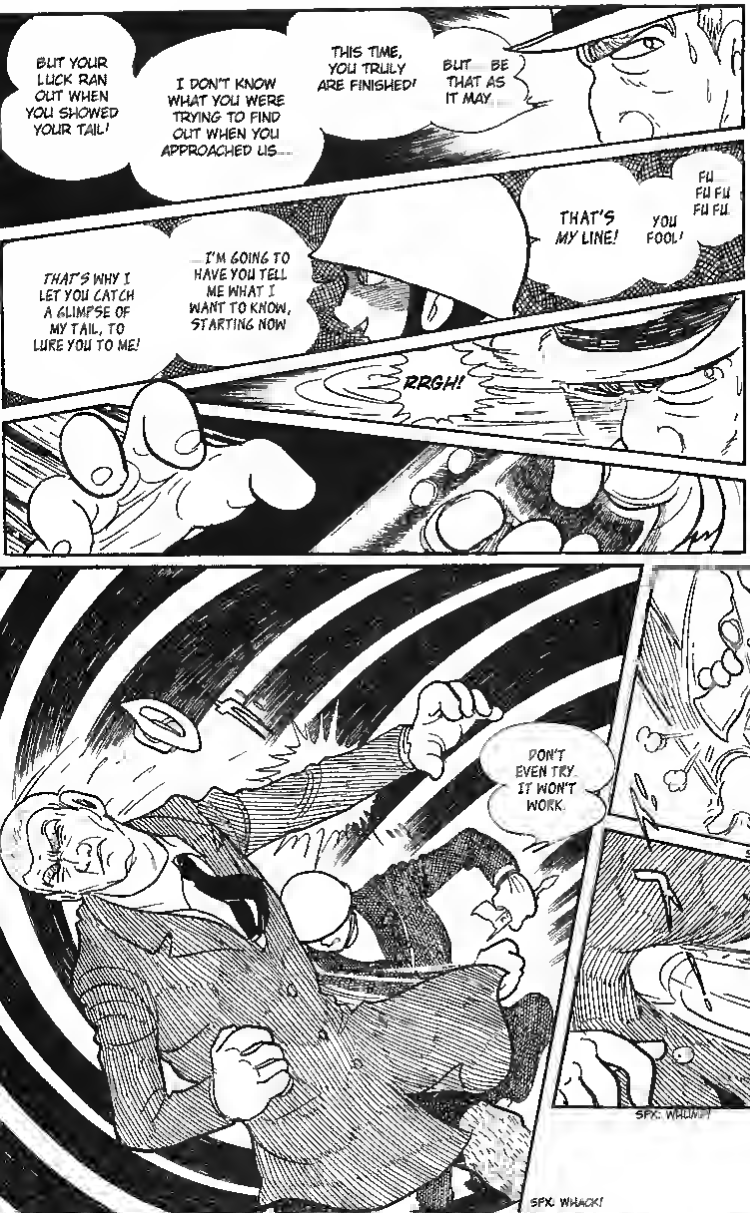

AH... I— I THOUGHT SOMETHING WAS FISHY FROM THE START!
NICE WORK. I'LL GIVE YOU THAT MUCH, BOSS!
STILL... I'M IMPRESSED THAT YOU SAW THROUGH KAGURA TATSUO AND FOUND SKULL MAN!


SFX: WAA WAA
FU FU... DIDN'T YOU KNOW? THE GREAT SKULL MAN IS ABLE TO APPEAR AND DISAPPEAR AT WILL!
U... UGH..

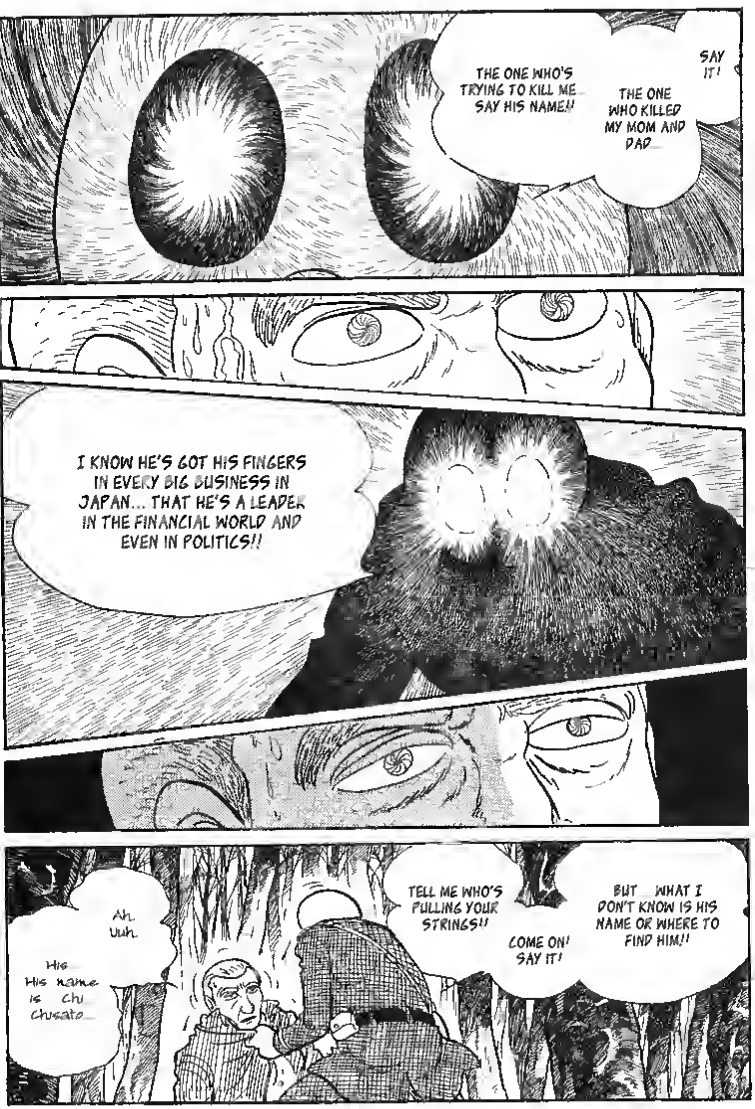

THAT'S WHY I... PURPOSEFULLY HIRED YOU ON, AND KEPT YOU CLOSE SO I COULD WATCH WHAT YOU DID!
THAT'S...
...A FEW DAYS AGO, WHEN YOU DIDN'T COME TO WORK...

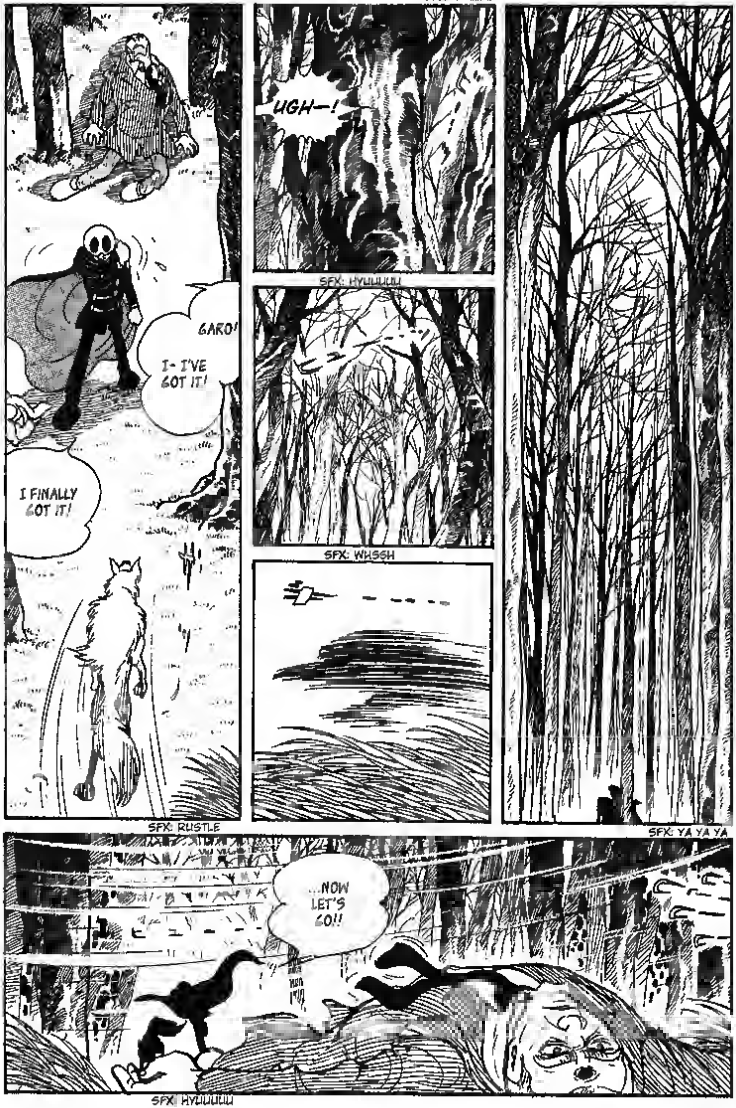

THEY KEPT QUIET AT FIRST, BUT EVENTUALLY THEY TOLD ME EVERYTHING!
YOUR PARENTS, OR RATHER, THE PEOPLE WHO RAISED YOU...
AND...
I WENT TO YOUR HOUSE AND INVESTIGATED THOROUGHLY...!

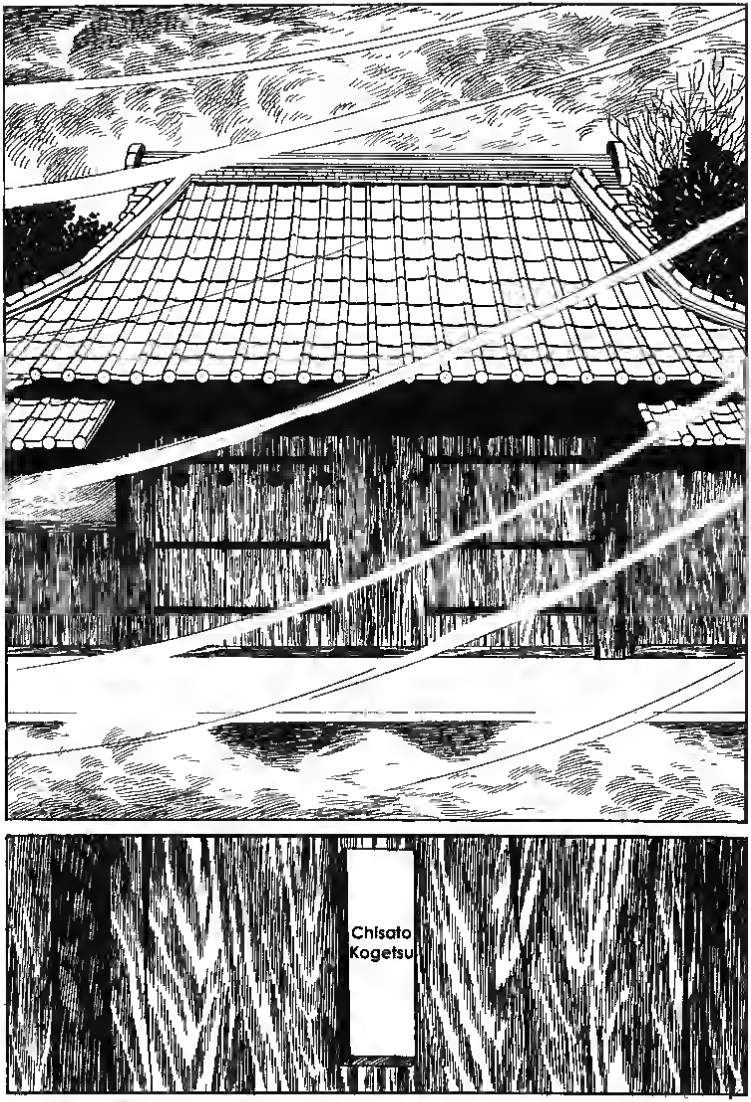

FU... FU FU
TO THINK THAT FOR FIFTEEN YEARS, YOU WERE HIDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF US, RIGHT UNDER OUR NOSES!!
DAM-MIT... DAM-MIT!
THEN... SINCE THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN, THEY ADOPTED THE..
AND BECAME PART OF THE KAGURA GROUP!
HOW, FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, A YOUNG MAN AND A LITTLE BOY CAME TO THEM ..

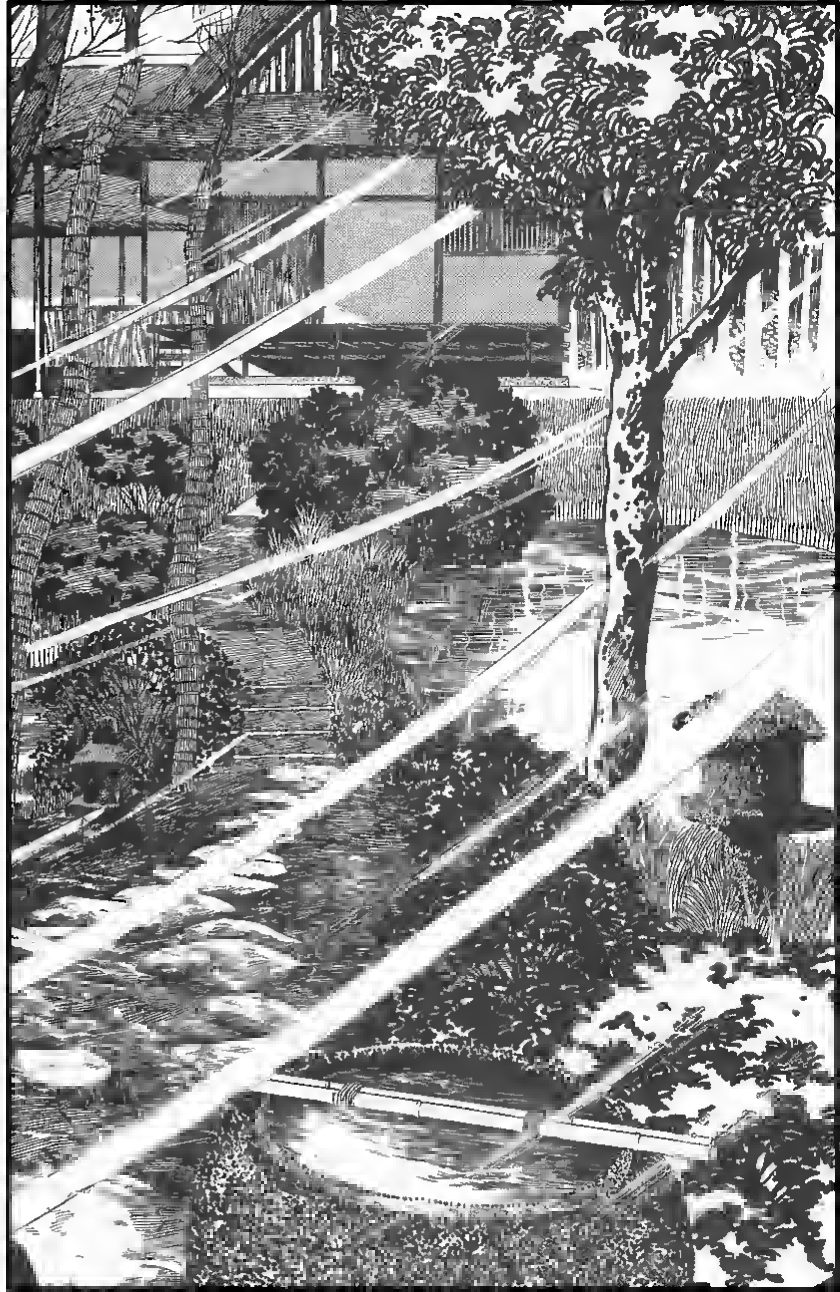

BUT YOUR LUCK RAN OUT WHEN YOU SHOWED YOUR TAIL!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO FIND OUT WHEN YOU APPROACHED US...
THIS TIME, YOU TRULY ARE FINISHED!
BUT... BE THAT AS IT MAY...
FU FU FU FU FU.
THAT'S MY LINE! YOU FOOL!
THAT'S WHY I LET YOU CATCH A GLIMPSE OF MY TAIL, TO LURE YOU TO ME!
...I'M GOING TO HAVE YOU TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, STARTING NOW.
RRGH!
DON'T EVEN TRY. IT WON'T WORK.
SFX: CRACK!
SFX: WHUMP!
SFX: WHACK!

JUST AS YOU SPENT FIFTEEN YEARS CHASING AFTER ME...
SUCH A LONG TIME... I'VE BEEN CHASING...
I I Fif Fifteen years Fif a long time...
DAMN
Dar- Damn you! To hell with you!!
HM- HMM.
I'VE SPENT THOSE FIFTEEN YEARS CHASING SOMEONE ELSE!!
I- I ONLY RECEIVED HIS ORDERS BY PHONE...
I- I DON'T KNOW A THING.
I- I DON'T KNOW!
WHERE IS HE, AND WHAT'S HIS NAME!?
WHERE IS THE MAN WHO ORDERED YOU TO HUNT ME?
NOW! TELL ME!
KNOW!
YOU ...
DON'T LIE TO ME!!

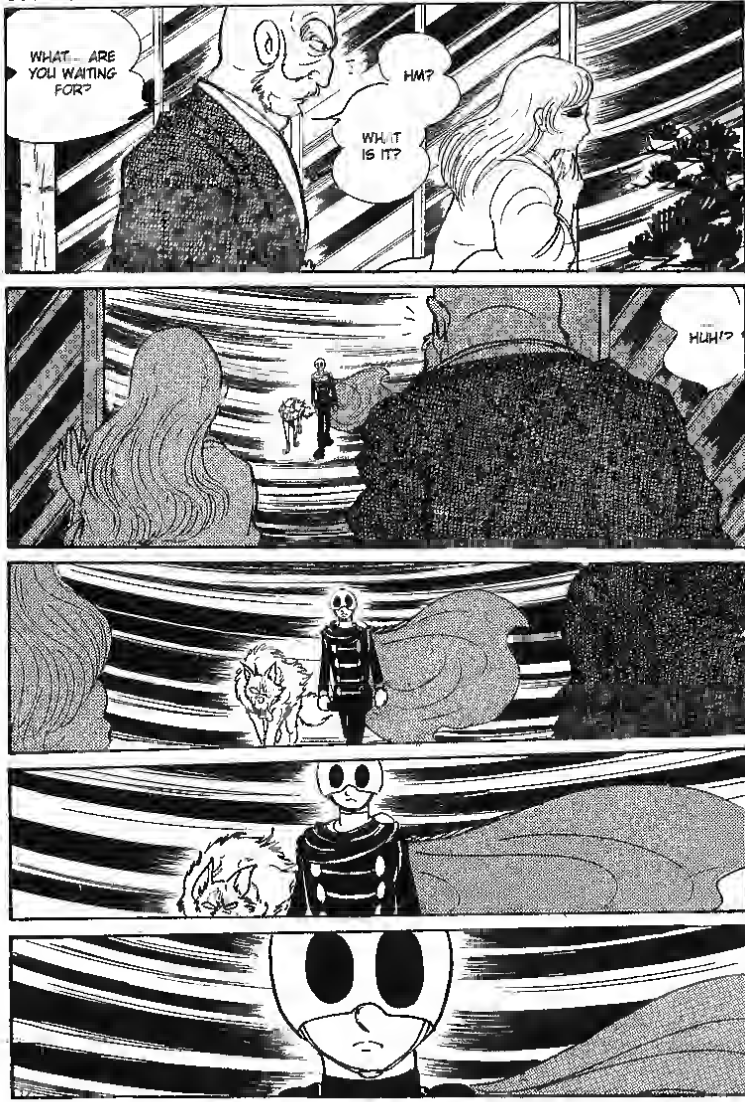

THE ONE WHO'S TRYING TO KILL ME... SAY HIS NAME!!
THE ONE WHO KILLED MY MOM AND DAD...
SAY IT!
I KNOW HE'S GOT HIS FINGERS IN EVERY BIG BUSINESS IN JAPAN... THAT HE'S A LEADER IN THE FINANCIAL WORLD AND EVEN IN POLITICS!!
TELL ME WHO'S PULLING YOUR STRINGS!!
COME ON! SAY IT!
BUT... WHAT I DON'T KNOW IS HIS NAME OR WHERE TO FIND HIM!!
Ah. Uuh.
His His name is Chi Chusato...


SFX: VRRRRN!
UGH—!
SFX: HYUUUUU
GARO!
I- I'VE GOT IT!
I FINALLY GOT IT!
SFX: WHSSH
SFX: RUSTLE
SFX: YA YA YA
...NOW LET'S GO!!
SFX: HYUUUUU

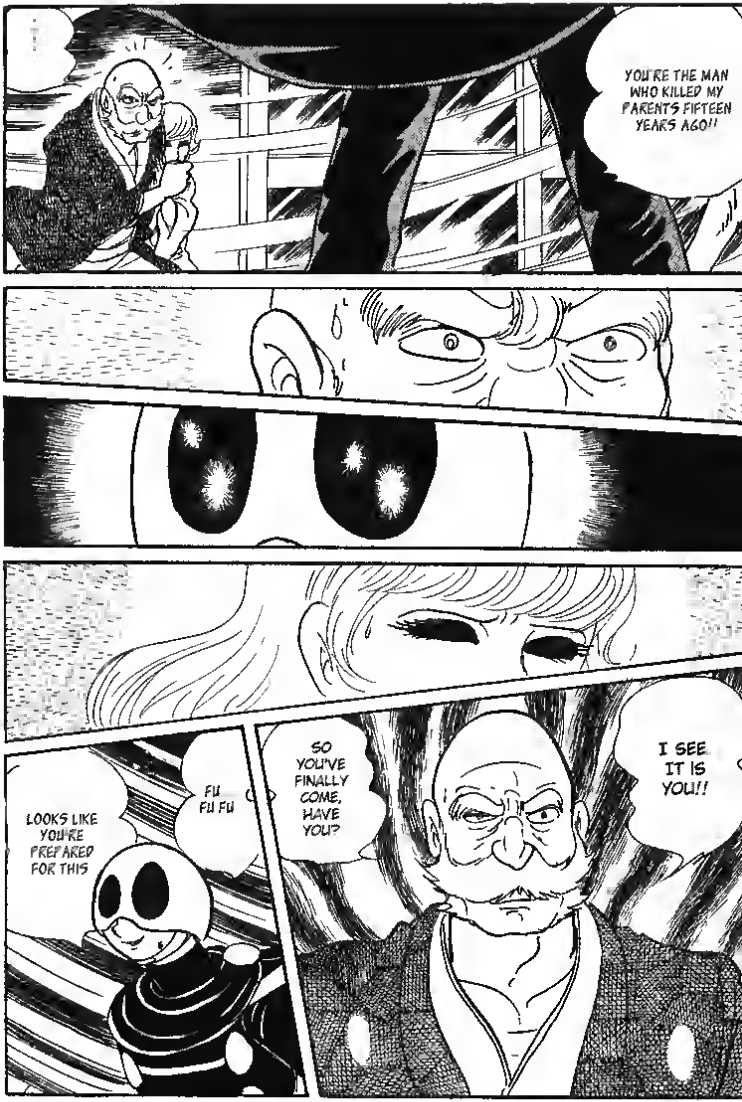

Chisato
Kogetsu

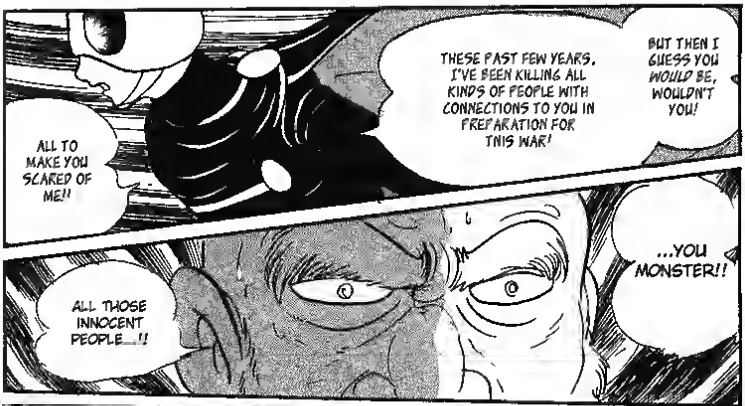


SFX. ヒュウウウウウウウ
MAYA
WHAT'S THE MATTER, CHILD? WHY DID YOU OPEN THE DOOR ..
EH?
THE WIND AREN'T YOU COLD?
SFX. HYUU

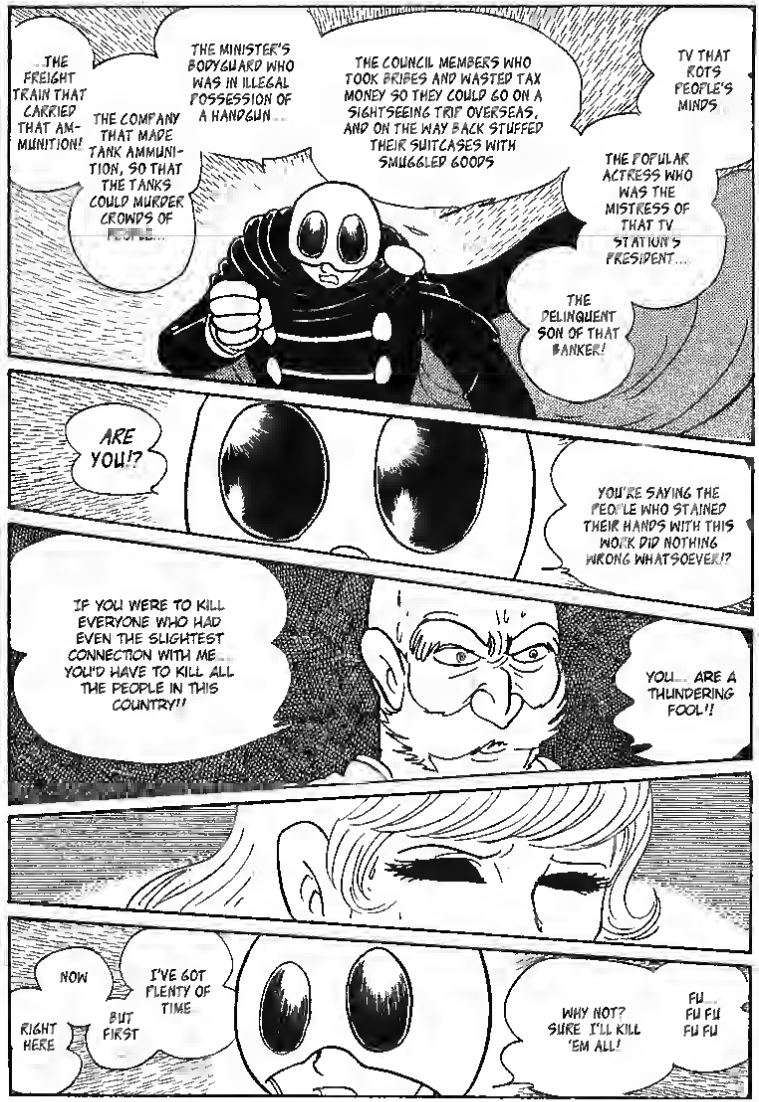

WHAT... ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
HM?
WH..T IS IT?
HUH!?

ARE YOU THE ONE...!?
IS... IS IT... YOU?
WHO ARE YOU?
CHISATO KOGETSU!!
DON'T YOU DARE SAY YOU DON'T KNOW ME...
Skull Man!

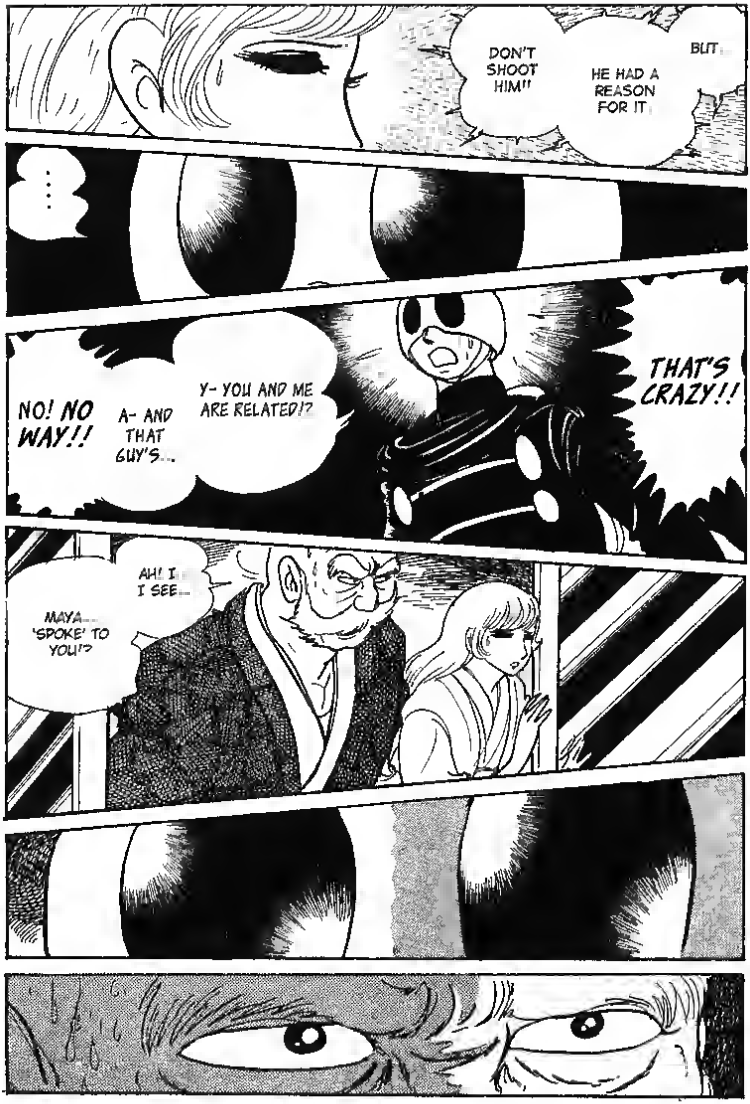

YOU'RE THE MAN WHO KILLED MY PARENTS FIFTEEN YEARS AGO!!
I SEE IT IS YOU!!
SO YOU'VE FINALLY COME, HAVE YOU?
FU FU FU
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE PREPARED FOR THIS


ALL TO MAKE YOU SCARED OF ME!!
THESE PAST FEW YEARS, I'VE BEEN KILLING ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE WITH CONNECTIONS TO YOU IN PREPARATION FOR THIS WAR!
BUT THEN I GUESS YOU WOULD BE, WOULDN'T YOU!
ALL THOSE INNOCENT PEOPLE...!!
...YOU MONSTER!!

HAH!!
'INNOCENT'?
'MONSTER'!?
IF I'M A MONSTER, WHAT'RE YOU?
A DEMON!?
YOU'RE TELLING ME THEY WERE INNOCENT? DON'T GIVE ME THAT!
THEY WERE WORKING TO COULD GET FAT AND RICH, WEREN'T THEY!?
WHAT WERE THOSE?
ALL THOSE THINGS YOU CONTROLLED FROM THE SHADOWS THAT POLITICAL PARTY, THE BANKER, THE COMPANIES AND THE RELIGIOUS GROUPS...
THE TV STATIONS YOU CONTROLLED, THE NEWSPAPERS AND THE POLICE AND THE RAIL-ROADS
ALL THOSE PEOPLE USED THEM TO LINE THEIR OWN POCKETS, TOO!!


...THE FREIGHT TRAIN THAT CARRIED THAT AMMUNITION!
THE COMPANY THAT MADE TANK AMMUNITION, SO THAT THE TANKS COULD MURDER CROWDS OF PEOPLE...
THE MINISTER'S BODYGUARD WHO WAS IN ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A HANDGUN...
THE COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO TOOK BRIBES AND WASTED TAX MONEY SO THEY COULD GO ON A SIGHTSEEING TRIP OVERSEAS, AND ON THE WAY BACK STUFFED THEIR SUITCASES WITH SMUGGLED GOODS
TV THAT ROTS PEOPLE'S MINDS
THE POPULAR ACTRESS WHO WAS THE MISTRESS OF THAT TV STATION'S PRESIDENT...
THE DELINQUENT SON OF THAT BANKER!
ARE YOU!?
YOU'RE SAYING THE PEOPLE WHO STAINED THEIR HANDS WITH THIS WORK DID NOTHING WRONG WHATSOEVER!?
IF YOU WERE TO KILL EVERYONE WHO HAD EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CONNECTION WITH ME... YOU'D HAVE TO KILL ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY!!
YOU... ARE A THUNDERING FOOL!!
NOW
RIGHT HERE
BUT FIRST
I'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME
WHY NOT? SURE I'LL KILL 'EM ALL!
FU... FU FU FU FU

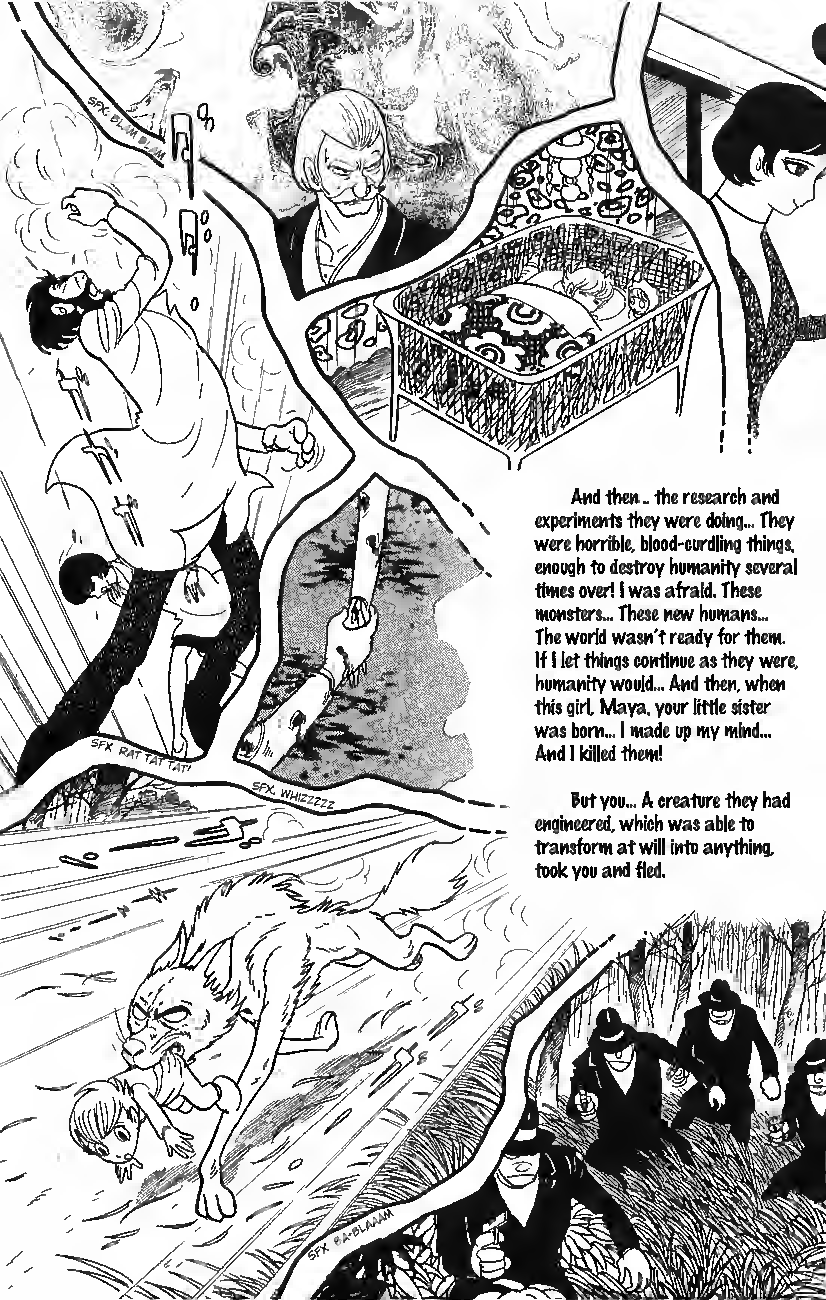
I'LL KILL YOU AND THAT GRANDDAUGHTER OF YOURS!!
WAIT!!
WAIT!!
DON'T SHOOT GRAND-FATHER!
MY BROTHER!!
Wh—!
WHAT?
YOU'RE RIGHT
THE PERSON WHO KILLED OUR FATHER AND MOTHER
WAS DEFINITELY GRAND-FATHER!


DON'T SHOOT HIM!!
HE HAD A REASON FOR IT
BUT...
...
THAT'S CRAZY!!
NO! NO WAY!!
A- AND THAT GUY'S...
Y- YOU AND ME ARE RELATED!?
AH! I SEE...
MAYA... 'SPOKE' TO YOU!?

...There's no help for it, then. I'll tell you...

Tatsuo. — Your father... and my only son... was an extraordinary genius. Yes... He was so brilliant that the term 'genius' is too common to fully describe him... So brilliant that I'm tempted to call him a mutant, a new type of human.

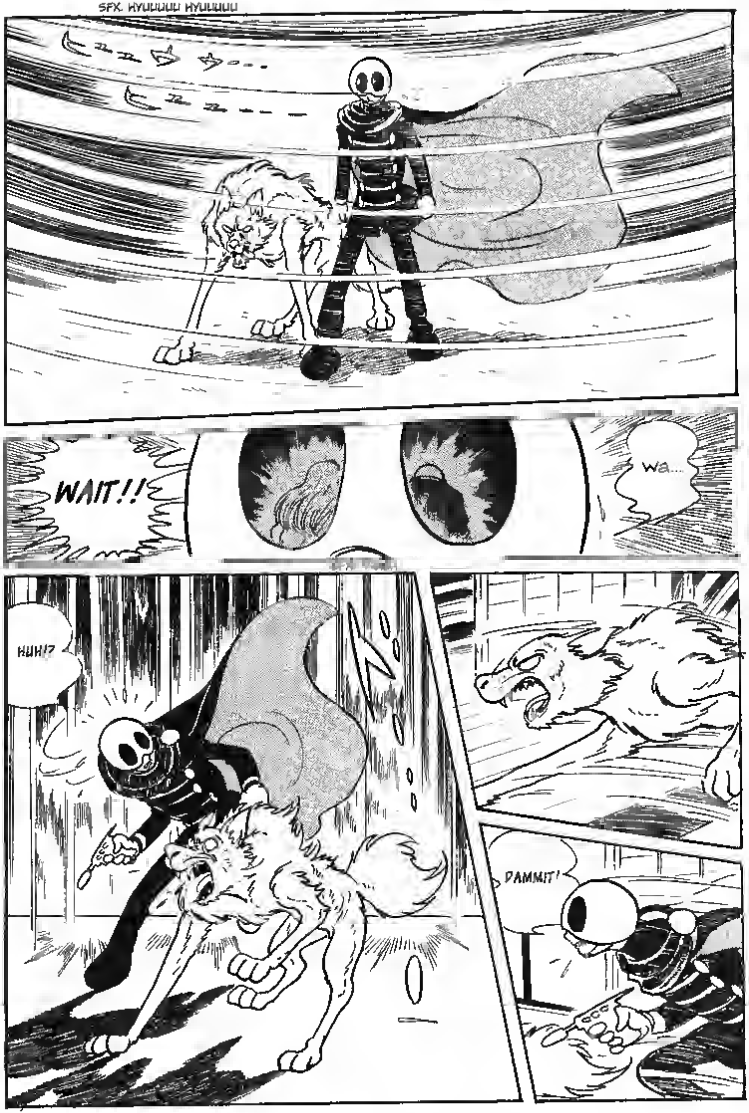
In any case, he was born with incredible physical and mental strength, many times more than that of a normal human. In addition to that, your mother... God only knows where he found her, but she was also... like him. He married her, and finally, you were born...



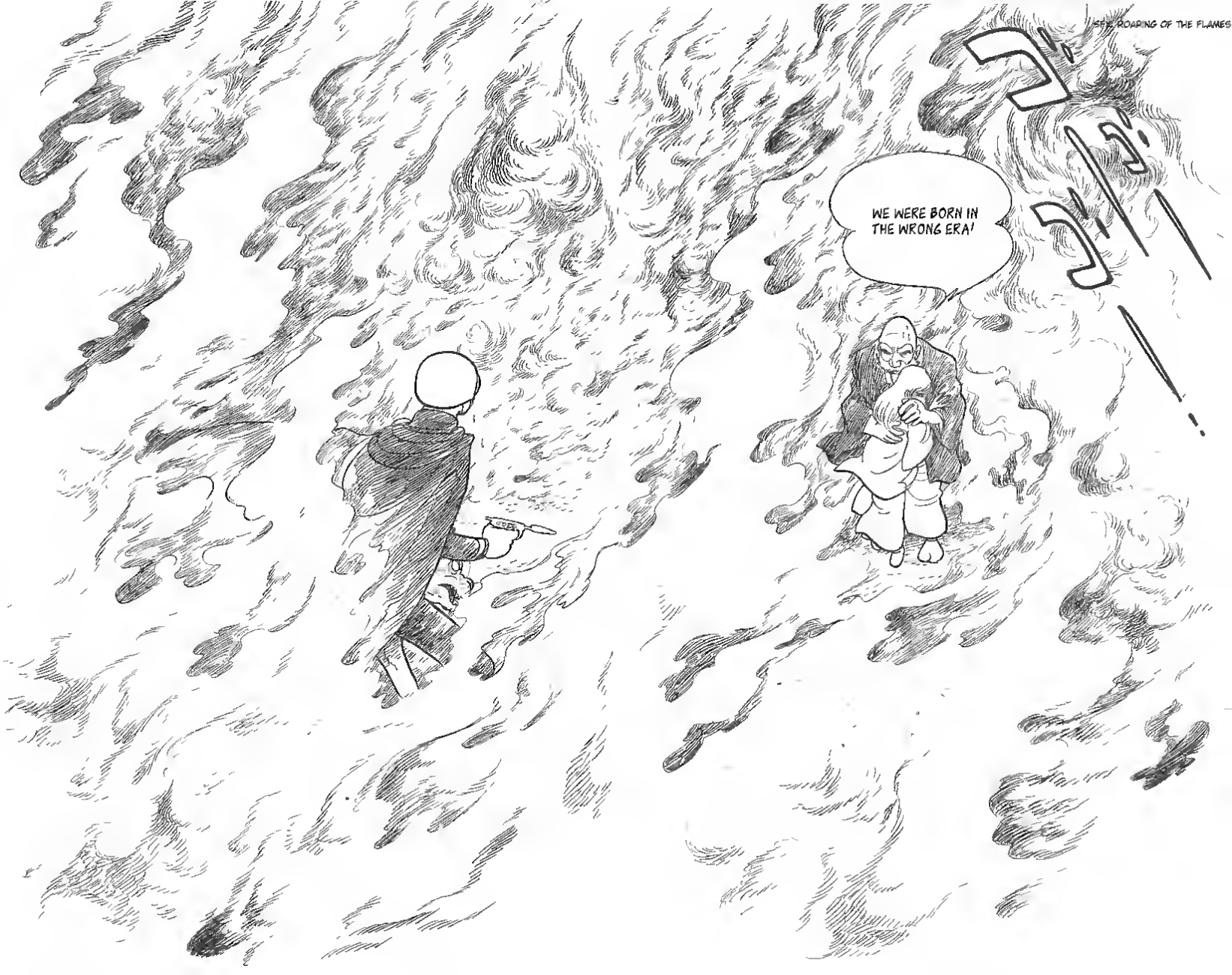

And then .. the research and experiments they were doing... They were horrible, blood-curdling things, enough to destroy humanity several times over! I was afraid. These monsters... These new humans... The world wasn't ready for them. If I let things continue as they were, humanity would... And then, when this girl, Maya, your little sister was born... I made up my mind... And I killed them!

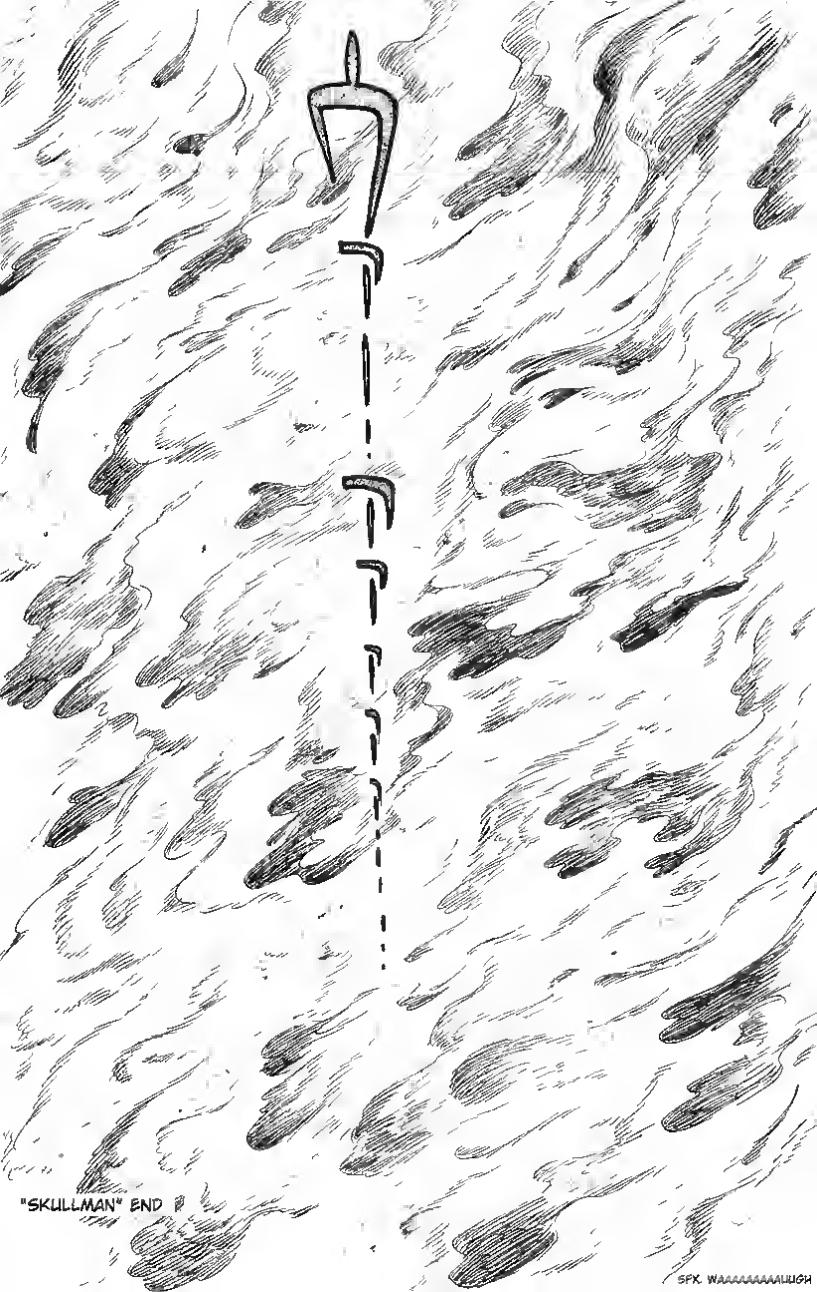
But you... A creature they had engineered, which was able to transform at will into anything, took you and fled.

EVEN YOU
GRANDFATHER COULDN'T BRING HIMSELF TO KILL ME!
BUT BROTHER...
I'M SURE HE HAD PEOPLE LOOKING FOR YOU FOR SUCH A LONG TIME BECAUSE... HE WANTED TO TAKE YOU INTO HIS CARE. BEFORE YOU DID ANYTHING...
...COME, MAYA.
COME!
BROTHER!
Y... YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT THE ONE WHO KILLED MY DAD AND MOM WAS MY GRANDFATHER!?
THAT I'M THE SON OF THOSE MONSTERS!?


SFX: HYUUUUU HYUUUUU
WAIT!!
Wa...
HUH!?
DAMMIT!

SFX: WHOOM! WHOOOOOOM
SFX: FLACE!
SFX: WHOOOOOSH!
SFX: KOOOOAR KOOOOAR
ALL OF US, TOGETHER!!
...
TATSUO!
... LET'S DIE HERE


WE WERE BORN IN THE WRONG ERA!


"SKULLMAN" END
SFX. WAAAAAAAAAAUUGH

# CREDITS
## PART ONE

RAW PROVIDER: OMINAE
TRANSLATOR: SAKKAONNA
PROOFREADER: XIAO CHA
CLEANER: PIRATE1019
TYPESETTER: BLOOD ALCHEMIST
QC: LORD PAPER
RE-EDITOR: LORD PAPER

DOMO SUANS
RAIN PRAVITEL SUANS
TRANSLATOR SUKARAGINA
PROOFREADER MARYTH
CLEANER DRAGSNURFAITLOID
LETTER PUNDESU
MANTA-SAN
EDITS LORD PAPERTURATEL707
TIAO AHA
スカルマン
THE SKULL MAN
NOW RECRUITING
TRANSLATORS AND
QUALITY CHECKERS